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# HISTORY OF FRANCE

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F. M. NIKAL.

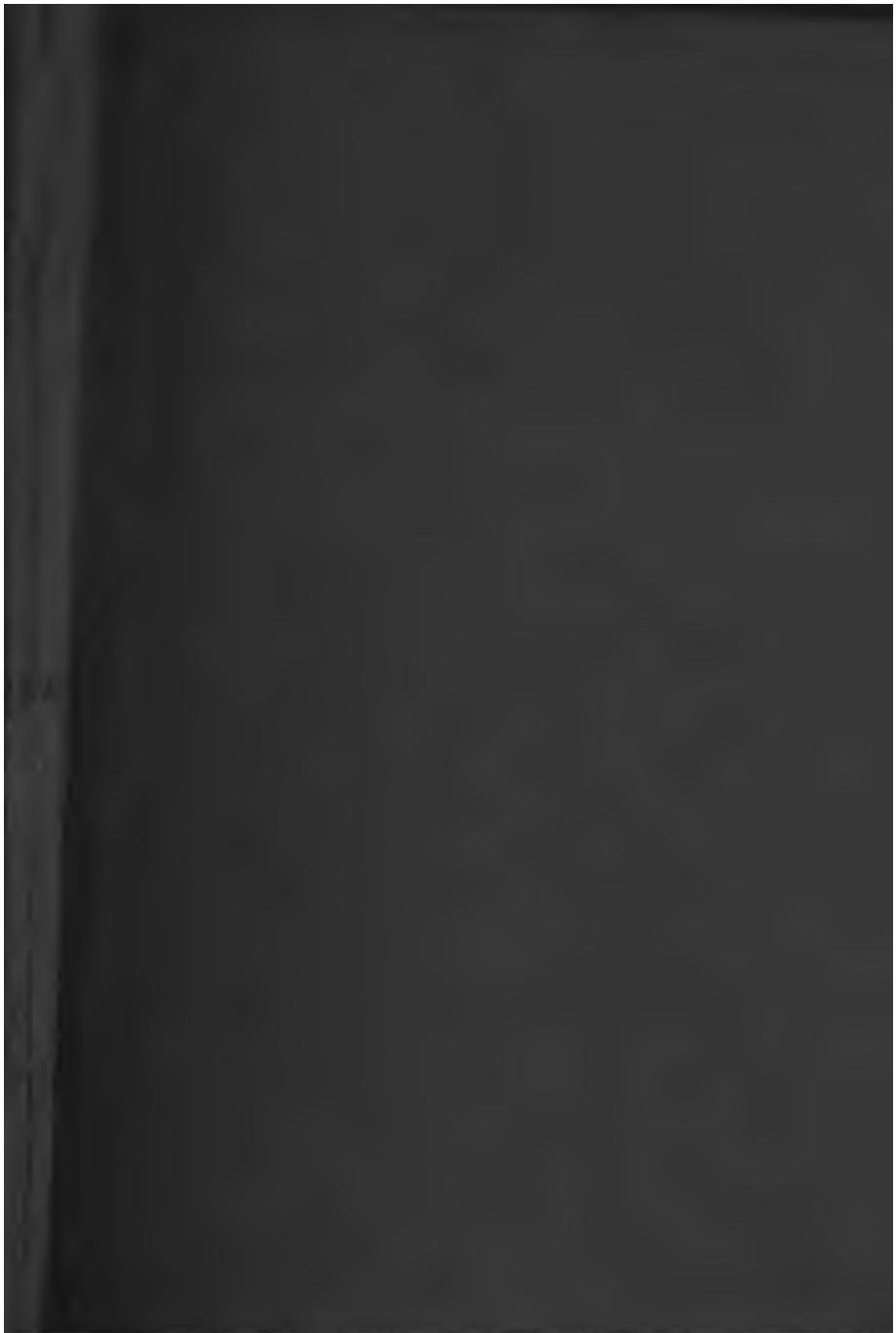
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# *HISTORY*

OF

## *FRANCE,*

FROM THE YEAR 420 TO THE SURRENDER  
OF METZ, 1870.

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*BY F. M. NIKAL.*

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LADY CAROLINE BARRINGTON.

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# PEDICATION.

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TO LADY CAROLINE BARRINGTON.

*Madam,*

*In thanking you for so kindly  
acceding to my request for permission to dedi-  
cate the "History of France" to you, may I  
beg your indulgence for the errors you may de-  
tect, and the deficiencies of which I myself am  
very sensible.*

*I have the honour to remain, Madam,*

*Your obliged and very grateful servant,*

*F. M. NIKAL.*





## P R E F A C E.

N presenting this little volume to the public I would ask their kind indulgence. My chief aim has been to provide a suitable History of France for Young Students; I have spent much thought, labour, and earnest research on my work, and have endeavoured to condense much important matter into a small compass, and to avoid all unnecessary dates and details, and I shall feel amply rewarded if it prove useful in contributing to a comprehensive acquaintance with the history of a people always interesting, and especially so at the present time.

I cannot take leave of a subject which has so long occupied me without a few words as to the unhappy position of France at this moment. Her last army has surrendered, Paris is surrounded by Prussian forces, and, unless averted by negotiations, its fall must surely follow that of Metz. A prolongation of this calamitous war

can only end in the complete prostration of France ; we can but sympathise deeply with her in her hour of great distress, and trust that such a fate may be avoided, and that ere long she will again enjoy the blessings of peace.

November, 1870.

F. M. N.



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## HISTORY OF FRANCE.

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### G A U L .

THE country formerly situated between the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, the Pyrenees, and the Rhine, was called Gaul; it is now named France.

The inhabitants, who were of Celtic origin, were fond of the chase and of war. Their arms were axes, knives, swords, and darts. They were divided into three classes: the slaves, the soldiers, and the druids or priests, which latter were also the doctors and the poets of the people.

Gaul was conquered about 50 B.C. by the Romans, and remained under their dominion for nearly five centuries. The first Roman colony was founded at Aix, the second at Narbonne.

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### F R A N K S .

THE first irruption of the Franks took place in 255, in the reign of the Emperor Valerian. They inhabited the banks of the Lower Rhine and the Weser, and seem to have been a restless people. They were driven out of Gaul in 275; in 287 they made several incursions and carried away a great quantity of booty from the coasts of Gaul; they were subdued by Maximian, who compelled their chiefs to submit to him, but they could not long remain at peace, and finally established themselves in some measure in the Northern part of Gaul, about the year 420.

## MEROVINGIAN RACE.

FROM 420 TO 752, UNDER 22 KINGS.

---

### PHARAMOND.

420—428.

PHARAMOND is considered the first king of France ; he led the Franks against *Ætius*, the Roman general, and is supposed to have been killed in battle. He is said to have compiled the Salic laws.

### CLODIO.

428—448.

CLODIO, son of Pharamond, was defeated by *Ætius* ; he nevertheless made himself master of Cambray, and destroyed Treves, Cologne, Tournay, and Amiens.

### MEROVÆUS

448—458.

MEROVÆUS allied himself to *Ætius*, in order to defend Gaul against Attila, king of the Huns, surnamed “The Scourge of God.” A battle took place near Chalons, 452, and Attila was defeated. This king has given his name to the first race of French kings.

### CHILDERIC.

458—481.

CHILDERIC, no longer kept in check by *Ætius*, made war upon

the Romans, and took the city of Paris after a lengthened siege. He was succeeded by his son, Clovis I.

## CLOVIS I.

481—511.

CLOVIS defeated the Roman Syagrius at Soissons, in the year 486, and thus destroyed the Roman dominion in Gaul. At the time of the division of the booty, Clovis wished to keep a vase claimed by the bishop St. Rémiigius; every one seemed willing to concede it, except a soldier, who, crying out, "The chief shall have the part which chance assigns to him," broke the vase. Clovis hid his resentment, but a few days later, when reviewing his troops, he complained that the arms of this soldier were not in order, and dealing him a mortal blow on the head, said to him, "Remember the vase at Soissons."

The battle of Tolbiac was gained in 496, over the Germans. Clovis, seeing his troops about to give way, cried out, "God of Clotilda, if Thou will grant me the victory, I swear to adore Thee only." He was baptized by Rémiigius, bishop of Rheims, 496.

In 507 Clovis marched against Alaric, king of the Visigoths; this king, although brave, had but little military experience; his army was defeated near Poitiers, and himself slain. Clovis was, however, now attacked by Theodoric, king of the Ostrogoths, and totally defeated at Arles. In 509 Clovis took Paris, and fixed his residence there. He died in 511; during the last years of his life he became cruel, and caused the murder of several of his kinsmen. His dominions were divided among his four sons—Thierry, Clodomir, Childebert, and Clotaire.

## CHILDEBERT.

511—558.

AT the death of Clovis I., Thierry became king of Metz, Clodomir of Orleans, Childebert of Paris, and Clotaire of Soissons.

Clodomir, Childebert and Clotaire, sons of Clotilda, made war upon Sigismund, son of Gondevaud, king of Burgundy, who had caused her father to be murdered. Sigismund was conquered and thrown into a pit, where he died. Godemar, brother of Sigismund, continued the war; he defeated Clodomir and killed him.

Clotilda took the two sons of Clodomir under her protection, but Childebert wishing to possess himself of their heritage, resolved, with the help of his brother Clotaire, to kill them. They asked the old queen to confide the children to their care, because they wished to put them in possession of the estates of their father; no sooner had they them in their power, than they sent to their mother a sword and scissors, asking her whether she preferred that they should die or become monks. She replied, "I would rather see them dead than shaven." Upon receiving this answer Clotaire killed the eldest; the second threw himself at the feet of Childebert and begged him to spare his life, but Clotaire immediately struck him a mortal blow. The third son, Cloaldo, escaped; he founded a monastery at St. Cloud, later, into which he retired.

Thierry and his sons being dead, the two brothers divided his estates; but Childebert, irritated against Clotaire, who had unjustly taken some of his lands, declared war upon him and incited his son Chramnes to revolt. Childebert died in 558: he left no son.

## CLOTAIRE.

558—561.

UPON the death of his brother Childebert, Clotaire united under his dominion all the states of his father Clovis.

Chramnes, left without protection by the death of his uncle Childebert, implored the pardon of his father, which he received. But he soon rebelled again, aided by the Count of Bretagne; the Bretons, however, were defeated, and Chramnes was taken prisoner in an attempt to rescue his wife and children from his father's troops; they were thrust into a thatched cottage, which was set on fire by the king's orders, and they perished in the flames.

Exactly one year afterwards died Clotaire I.; in his remorse and agony he cried, "What must be the power of this King of Heaven, who can thus punish the great kings of the earth!" He left four sons: Caribert, Chilperic, Gontran and Sigebert.

## CARIBERT.

561—567.

THE four sons of Clotaire thus divided his dominions: Chilperic obtained Soissons, Caribert Paris, Gontran Burgundy, and Sigebert Austrasia or Metz.

Caribert was the first king of France who had to submit to the power of the church; he was excommunicated by St. Germanicus, bishop of Paris.

Caribert died after a reign of six years; he was married four times and had issue several daughters but no sons.

## CHILPERIC I.

567—584.

CHILPERIC had married Galswitha, daughter to Athanagilde,

king of the Visigoths, having previously dismissed his mistress Fredegonde; the latter, a woman of great ambition, after some time persuaded Chilperic to allow her to reappear at court; the queen, greatly offended, proposed returning to Spain, promising to leave to the king the great wealth she had brought him; aware that this would render him odious he lulled her suspicions, but soon caused her to be strangled privately, and then married Fredegonde. Sigebert the brother-in-law of Galswitha (he had married her sister Burnehaut) thereupon invaded the dominions of Chilperic, and would have probably conquered all of them, when he was assassinated by the contrivance of Fredegonde. Childebert, the son of Sigebert and Burnehaut his wife were shut up in prison at Rouen. Childebert escaped with Gondevaud, a brave General, and was proclaimed king of Austrasia; he was then five years old. Burnehaut soon after married Merovæus, son of Chilperic, but the king hearing of the marriage caused them to be separated, and Merovæus was soon after put to death at the instigation of Fredegonde. Some months later Fredegonde lost several of her children, and accused Clovis, a son of Chilperic (by a former queen, Andovera), of having poisoned them, he was murdered by her orders.

CHILPERIC was killed by some unknown assassins in the forest of Chelles 584. By Fredegonde he had one son, Clotaire II.

## CLOTAIRE II.

584—628.

UPON the death of her husband, Fredegonde made herself regent; she tried for some time unsuccessfully to win the

favour of Gontran, brother of Sigebert, but he at last accepted the regency conjointly with her.

By the treaty of Andelot, Gontran gave Burgundy to his nephew Childebert, king of Austrasia; Fredegonde, not approving of this, declared war upon Childebert and gained the battle of Droissy, 598.

At the death of Childebert, his two young sons, Theodorebert and Thierry, were left to the care of Burnehaut; she, however, brought them up so badly that they were totally unfit to govern. War ensued between them, in which Theodorebert was killed. Thierry was soon after poisoned by his grand-mother. Burnehaut, who was detested by the followers of her first husband, was betrayed into the hands of Clotaire II; he ordered her royal robes to be taken off, and having had her clothed in rags, and exposed to the view of the soldiers and populace for three days, caused her to be tied by the leg to the tail of an untamed horse, which, setting off at a furious pace, quickly dashed out her brains.

Towards the end of his reign Clotaire sent his son Dagobert to combat the Saxons; he was defeated, his helmet broken, and part of his hair cut off; dreading his father's anger, he sent him a lock of his hair saturated with blood, upon receiving which the king said, "My son has been conquered, but his valour shows me that he will soon be conqueror."

Clotaire died in 628, leaving two sons, Dagobert and Caribert.

## DAGOBERT I.

628—638.

DAGOBERT who had been king of Austrasia during his father's

lifetime, now became master of the whole kingdom, with the exception of a few provinces (of which Toulouse was the capital), belonging to his brother Caribert; Caribert, however, dying, Dagobert took his estates; Aquitaine he gave to his nephews, Boggis and Bertrand.

The Austrasians became discontented and demanded a king of their own, upon which Dagobert sent them his eldest son Sigebert.

At this epoch very few people could either read or write, except the monks, who employed all their leisure in copying books, which were very expensive. Dagobert encouraged learning; he also founded many monasteries, which he endowed with rich gifts. Commerce flourished, and gold and silver became plentiful. Dagobert died in 638, and was buried at St. Denis, upon his tomb are angels and devils disputing for the possession of his soul.

Dagobert left two sons, Sigebert and Clovis II.

The succeeding kings are called "Rois Fainéants," or indolent kings; they gave up all authority to their mayors of the palace, reserving for themselves the empty title of king.

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## ROIS FAINEANTS.

638—752.

### CLOVIS II.

638—656.

FRANCE was now for a short time divided between Sigebert and Clovis, but the death of the former made Clovis king of the whole of France. These princes were very young at the time of Dagobert's death, and were governed by "Mayors of the Palace," chosen by the people, and elevated

above all other officers of the state. They forced Nanthilda, widow of the late king, to retire into a convent, and later, made Clovis marry Bathilda, a foreign princess, reduced to slavery and brought to France by pirates. Sigebert's son, Dagobert, was confined in a monastery in Scotland, by his Mayor of the Palace, who placed his own son upon the throne of Austrasia, but the people revolted, and killed both father and son. During the reign of Clovis, France suffered greatly from a famine; the king caused the gold and silver ornaments to be taken from the tombs of the nobility, and sold for the benefit of the poor.

Clovis had three sons, Clotaire III., Childeric II., and Thierry III.

### CLOTAIRE III.

656—670.

CLOTAIRE succeeded as king of Burgundy, and of Neustria, Childeric of Austrasia; Thierry had no heritage.

Bathilda was named regent, she governed well, and abolished a tax which often forced poor people to sell their children. The Mayor of the Palace Ebroin, however, jealous of her power, forced her to retire into a convent at Chelles, which she had founded.

Clotaire died in 670, aged 20 years, he left no son, and was succeeded by his brother Childeric II.

### CHILDERIC II.

670—673.

THE Mayors of the Palace of Childeric were Ebroin and Léger. Childeric was assassinated in the forest of Livry, by one of the lords of his court, whom he had unjustly sen-

tenced to be beaten with rods, a punishment reserved for slaves only. His son Dagobert escaped to a monastery, where he lived as Brother Daniel ; some years afterwards he ascended the throne under the title of Chilperic II.

Ebroin and Léger now quarrelled as to who should be king, Léger naming Thierry III, son of Clovis 11, and Ebroin a pretended son of Clotaire II. War ensued, Léger was vanquished, and his cheeks, lips, and tongue were mutilated by Ebroin's orders.

### THIRREY III.

673—691.

UPON the death of Léger, Ebroin recognised the claims of Thierry III. to the throne.

At this time Dagobert was brought from his retreat in Scotland, and part of Austrasia was ceded to him.

Ebroin was assassinated, and Thierry became a mere tool in the hands of his Mayors of the Palace.

Upon the death of Dagobert, the Austrasians chose for their chiefs Martin and Pepin, of Heristal, so named from his palace on the Meuse. War broke out between Austrasia and Neustria, the pretext being that Pepin received with open arms all the discontented nobles who left Thierry's court. A battle took place at Testry in 687, in which Thierry's Mayor was killed ; Pepin marched triumphantly to Paris, and obliged Thierry to receive him as his Mayor of the Palace. This was the first victory gained by the Austrasians over the Neustrians.

Thierry left three sons : Clovis III., Childebert III., and Clotaire IV.

**CLOVIS III.**

691—695.

PEPIN D'HERISTAL, now all powerful, gave the Crown to Clovis III., but took all authority himself. Clovis died in 695, aged 14 years.

**CHILDERIC III.**

695—711.

UPON the death of Clovis, Pepin placed Chiladeric III., son of Thierry III., upon the throne. Chiladeric was surnamed the “Just,” and would probably have made a good king had he been allowed to act according to his own judgment. He gained several victories over the Germans. Chiladeric was succeeded by his son Dagobert III.

**DAGOBERT III.**

711—715.

PEPIN died during this reign, having exercised unlimited authority during a period of twenty-six years. He had appointed Theodobald, his grand-son, a child of six years old, to succeed him as Mayor of the Palace; the Austrasians would not submit to this, and the adherents of Theodobald were defeated in battle. Charles, the illegitimate son of Pepin, was made Duke of Austrasia, and Dagobert was murdered at the age of 17 years; he left one son, Thierry IV.

**CLOTAIRE IV.**

715—717.

THE son of Dagobert was set aside by the Mayors of the Palace, and Clotaire IV., son of Thierry III., was made king;

Charles, surnamed Martel, from an iron hammer he was accustomed to use in battle, reserved all authority to himself.

## CHILPERIC II.

717—720.

CHARLES MARTEL continued Mayor of the Palace, Chilperic, or Brother Daniel, brought to a throne from a monastery, was quite unfit to govern.

War was raged successfully against the Saxons, the Bavarians, the Burgundians, and the Germans.

## THIERRY IV.

720—737.

THIERRY, son of Dagobert III., was placed upon the throne by Charles Martel; he led a life of pleasure and idleness, leaving Charles Martel to govern for him.

It was during this reign that France was invaded by the Moors or Saracens, who, having conquered the greater part of Asia, now turned their arms westward; they had already subdued Spain, and now appeared in great numbers under the walls of Toulouse. Eudes, Duke of Aquitaine, fought against them bravely but was obliged to solicit the aid of Charles, who at once put himself at the head of his troops, and marched against the common enemy. He encountered the Saracens near to Poictiers; they were defeated and are said to have lost three hundred and seventy-five thousand men in this one battle. Charles again defeated them near Avignon in 737. It was during this war that Charles received the surname of Martel.

Thierry died in 737, leaving one son, Childebert III.

## INTERREGNUM.

737—742.

CHARLES MARTEL having established his power firmly, took possession of the kingdom. Gregory III. chose him his protector, and offered him the dignity of Roman Consul, but while these negotiations were going on Charles died, leaving three sons, Pepin, Carloman, and Gripon, and desiring that Pepin and Carloman should govern France, as though they were direct heirs to the throne. Gripon receiving only a few provinces, made war upon his brothers; he was defeated, his estates taken from him, and himself imprisoned at Ardennes. Pepin and Carloman made war upon the Germans, whom they completely routed. Carloman soon after retired into a monastery, and Pepin became sole monarch of France.

## CHILDERIC.

742—752.

PEPIN, fearing the Neustrians would not continue faithful to him, gave them a king in the person of Childeric III., son of Thierry IV., intending, however, to depose him when he became older. Some years later, he sent to pope Zacharias, asking, “Who is most fit to govern, he who exercises kingly authority, or he who has only the title?” The Pope replied, “He who exercises the kingly power,” upon which Childeric was deposed, and confined in the monastery of St. Omer, where he died in 752.

## SECOND RACE: CARLOVINGIANS.

752—987, UNDER 13 KINGS.

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### PEPIN THE LITTLE.

752—768.

PEPIN was crowned at Soissons, by the Archbishop of Mayence.

In 754 Pope Stephen II. crossed over into France to implore Pepin's aid against Astolpus, king of the Lombards. Pepin received him with great honour, and himself nursed him through a dangerous illness with which he was seized. The following spring Pepin marched into Italy, besieged Astolpus in the town of Pavia, and obliged him to make peace with the Pope, to restore Ravenna, and to pay an annual tribute. Stephen, in return for this, bestowed the title of Patricians of Rome on Pepin and his sons.

Pepin now engaged in war with Aquitaine; he at first gained some victories, but would probably have been finally defeated, had not the duke been betrayed into his hands; his eyes were put out and he retired to a monastery in the island of St. Rhé. His son continued the war unsuccessfully, and was at last put to death by his own soldiers. Aquitaine was thus again annexed to the crown of France. Pepin was surnamed the "Little" on account of his small stature; knowing that his nobles frequently despised him on this account, he one day caused them to assemble in order to

witness a fight between wild beasts ; a lion was on the point of killing a wild boar, when Pepin cried out to the nobles, "Which of you will dare to separate these animals?" No one replied, upon which Pepin threw himself between them, and with one blow cut off the lion's head ; then turning to the mortified nobles said, "Am I worthy to be your king? David was little, yet he killed Goliath." Pepin died in 768 ; his great actions render his name deservedly illustrious, yet in the following reign his fame seems to have been forgotten, for on his tomb was only inscribed, "Here lies the father of Charlemagne."

He was succeeded by his two sons Charles and Carloman.

## CHARLEMAGNE.

768—814.

CHARLEMAGNE and Carloman reigned conjointly for some time ; they, however, did not agree, and war seemed likely to ensue when the death of Carloman ended all competition, and Charlemagne took possession of the whole kingdom.

Pope Adrain applied to Charlemagne for aid against Didier, king of the Lombards, and successor to Astolphus. Charles was not averse to enter into this quarrel, for having married a daughter of Didier, and divorced her without just cause, her father was trying to force the pope to crown a son of Carloman in his stead. Charles besieged him in Pavia during a whole year ; famine and pestilence then obliged him to submit. Charlemagne took him prisoner and confined him for the remainder of his life. He then confirmed the pope in the possession of the provinces given to him by Pepin. Italy was added to France, with the exception of the Duchy of Beneventum, which was left to the son of

Didier. Charles continued the war with the Saxons; many of the chiefs submitted to him in 777; but the next year war was renewed, and Charlemagne, angered by a defeat sustained by his lieutenants, caused 4,500 Saxons to be beheaded in one day. Three years later, Witikind, a Saxon general, submitted to Charles, and was baptised. Eight years after another rebellion took place, and the Saxons were not finally subdued until 804.

Ibunala, who occupied the throne of Saragossa, sent ambassadors to Charlemagne requesting assistance against the Caliph of Cordova, who had driven him from his territory; the French king marched into Spain, reduced Pampeluna, Barcelona, and Saragossa, and re-installed Ibunala. On his return across the Pyrenees his rearguard was attacked and defeated by the Gascons; in this encounter the celebrated Roland was killed.

The Pope Leo III., having escaped from a conspiracy formed against him, came to Charlemagne at Paderborn to ask his protection. The king gave him an escort to return to Rome, and went there himself the following year, in order to settle all disputes. He appeared in the Cathedral of St. Peter, on Christmas-day, in the year 800, and was crowned by the pope, as "Emperor of the West." The place resounded with cries of, "Life and glory to Charles, crowned by God, great and pacific emperor of the Romans." It was during this reign that the Normans made their first appearance on the coasts of France; Charles seeing their ships, wept, and said to those near him, "I weep, for I foresee all the evil they will work us."

Charlemagne died in 814, and was buried at Aix-la-Chapelle, which is supposed to have been his birth-place.

The following curious account is given by "Timbs," of the opening of his tomb nearly two hundred years afterwards : "When his tomb was opened by Otto III., one hundred and eighty years after the interment, the body of Charlemagne was found in an erect position, seated on a marble stool, in full imperial costume, and all undecayed except the point of the nose. His nails had grown so long as to pierce and project through the gloves with which his hands were covered. Otto removed all the adjuncts, to be preserved as imperial reliques, extracted a tooth to increase their number, pared the over-grown nails, renewed the lost nose by one of gold, and, having placed on him a clean shirt, once more consigned Charles to repose."

Charlemagne encouraged learning, and founded many schools. He was fond of study and had fixed hours every day which he devoted to the improvement of his mind.

The National Assemblies, which were now called Parliaments, were re-established.

Charlemagne had four sons, Louis, however, alone survived him.

## LOUIS LE DEBONNAIRE.

814—840.

SOON after his accession Louis divided his kingdom among his three sons, confirming his nephew Bernard in his possession of Italy; this young prince, however, jealous that Lothaire, the king's son, should have the title of emperor, rebelled; but his soldiers abandoned him, and falling into the hands of his uncle, his eyes were put out. Soon after the death of his queen Ermengarde, Louis married Judith, a princess of Bavaria, an ambitious woman, who caused all

the troubles of this reign. Angry that the sons of Ermengarde possessed the rich states of their father, she determined to procure a kingdom for her son Charles, and persuaded the king to take a portion of their heritage from each of his sons, and to create a new kingdom for Charles. Too weak to resist her, he did so, upon which the three brothers rose against their father and confined him in a monastery, after having condemned him to do public penance. Lothaire now assumed such power that his brothers became alarmed, liberated their father, and re-placed him upon the throne. Louis generously pardoned Lothaire, and upon the death of his second son, Pepin, 838, divided his lands between Lothaire and Charles. Pepin II., son of Pepin of Aquitaine, and Louis the German, discontented with this arrangement, revolted. Although the season was far advanced, Louis put himself at the head of the troops and marched against the rebels, but he was taken ill and died near to Mayence. By Ermengarde Louis had three sons, Lothaire, Pepin, and Louis, surnamed the German; by Judith he had one son, Charles, surnamed the Bald.

### CHARLES THE BALD.

840—877.

LOTHAIRE, the eldest of the brothers, tried to extend his authority to the states of Charles and Louis, but they took up arms against him, and the famous battle of Fontenay was fought, in which 100,000 men were killed. Lothaire was defeated and fled to Italy, but he soon raised fresh forces, and so pressed his brothers that they were glad to consent to a new partition of the Empire. A treaty was signed at Verdun by which Lothaire, already possessing the imperial

crown, was allowed to retain Italy, part of the South of France, part of Burgundy, and that part of France called Lorraine; Charles received Aquitaine and the country lying between the Loire and the Meuse, and Louis received Bavaria and the rest of Germany, whence his surname "the German." Lothaire retired to a monastery in 855, leaving Italy to his eldest son, Louis II., Lorraine to the second son, Lothaire, and Provence, Dauphiné, and part of Burgundy to the youngest, Charles.

The Normans took advantage of the troubled state of the kingdom to invade France. In 845 they besieged Paris, and pillaged it; but they were defeated at Angiers, and purchased leave to depart by leaving all their booty.

Charles II. was crowned Emperor by Pope John VIII., upon the death of his nephew, Louis. He then invaded his dominions, but the attempt proved unsuccessful; he was defeated, and died in a village of the Alps, poisoned, it is supposed, by his Jewish physician, Sedecias. He was succeeded by his son, Louis the Stammerer.

## LOUIS II. THE STAMMERER.

877—879.

LOUIS II. reigned for two years only, during which very little of importance took place. He was a man of weak intellect, and had much difficulty to succeed to the throne: it was only after bestowing rich gifts upon the nobles that he was recognised as king.

During this reign a law was passed by which children were allowed to succeed to the duchy or county of the deceased father; this law, by increasing the power of the nobles, diminished that of the sovereign.

Louis died at Compiégne, leaving three sons: Louis III., Carloman, and Charles IV., surnamed the Simple.

### LOUIS III. AND CARLOMAN.

879—884.

LOUIS III. and Carloman were crowned as joint kings, but only a portion of the nobles recognised their authority.

The Normans again made several incursions into France; the kings asked the help of their uncle, Charles the Fat, of Germany; he, however, instead of marching against them gave his daughter in marriage to their chief, Godfrey, together with the sovereignty of Frizeland.

Louis died in 882, it was suspected of poison; Carloman did not long survive him; he received a mortal blow while hunting, 884.

### CHARLES THE FAT.

884—888.

CHARLES, son of Louis the Stammerer, then a child of five years old, was put aside, after the death of his brothers, Louis and Carloman, and Charles the Fat, uncle to the princes, and Emperor of Germany, was elected king of France, for the country required a defender against the Normans. This choice was, however, a very unfortunate one, for Charles was a coward. The Normans laid siege to Paris, which was defended by Eudes, Count of Paris. The siege lasted during a year. At the end of this time Charles advanced with a large army to the heights of Montmartre, but instead of fighting, he concluded a shameful treaty with the Normans, gave them a sum of money, and abandoned Burgundy to be plundered by them.

The people, indignant, deposed Charles, who returned to Germany, where he died in a state of great distress.

The Normans, or Northmen, came originally from the North of Europe, from Denmark and Sweden. They followed the religion of Wodin or Odin; they professed great contempt for death, and believed that those who died in war only went direct to Paradise, where their felicity consisted in arming themselves every day, cutting themselves to pieces, and returning safe and sound to the banquet hall of Odin, there to eat a wild boar, which was born again after each feast, and to drink beer out of the skulls of their enemies.

With this reign ends the Empire of the West, founded by Charlemagne. Seven kingdoms were created from it, Germany, Italy, Burgundy, France, Provence, Navarre, and Lorraine.

## EUDES.

888—898.

CHARLES THE SIMPLE was again set aside, in favour of Eudes, Count of Paris; several of the Neustrian nobles refused to submit to him, but as he was powerful, and possessed of several strong castles, one of the bishops consented to crown him.

Eudes fought successfully against the Normans, gained the battle of Montflaucon, in which 19,000 men are said to have been killed. He next went to subdue Aquitaine, which had revolted; while there the discontented nobles proclaimed Charles the Simple king; war ensued between Eudes and Charles, but was terminated in 896 by the division of the monarchy between the two princes. Eudes died two years after this agreement.

## CHARLES THE SIMPLE.

898—923.

CHARLES, a weak and foolish prince, was a mere tool in the hands of his ministers; he tried in vain to check the power of the nobles, who continued to extend their possessions to the detriment of the crown. He was constantly defeated by the Normans, and was at last glad to conclude a treaty with Rollo, their chief; Neustria, which received the name of Normandy, was ceded to him, upon condition that he and his followers embraced Christianity. He was created "Duke," and as such was required to do homage to the king; he would, however, not consent to humble himself thus in person, but sent one of his soldiers in his stead, who upon being told to kiss the king's foot, seized his leg so roughly as to cause him to fall backwards, to the amusement of the assembled Franks.

Rollo, or as he now called himself Robert, settled quietly in Normandy, and even defended its coasts against pirates from his own country. He is said to have had such influence over his people that gold bracelets hung from the branches of trees during three years without anyone attempting to take them. He established a sort of Parliament, made wise laws, and cultivated Normandy to such an extent that in a few years it became the most flourishing province of France. In 911, Louis, surnamed the Child, the last of the family of Charlemagne, died in Germany. The Germans elected Conrad of Franconia king, but the nobles of Lorraine chose Charles the Simple, either on account of his weak intellect, or from attachment to the family of Charlemagne; war was declared, and Charles remained master of Lorraine. Haga-

nun, the favourite of the king, obtained such power and influence that the nobles, irritated and disgusted, revolted, and had Robert, brother of Eudes, crowned at Rheims. The soldiers comprising the army of Charles deserted and joined the nobles, the king fled into Lorraine. Robert was soon after killed in battle, and is not mentioned among the French kings. He left one son, Hugh, who, not ambitious of reigning, caused the crown to be given to Raoul, or Rodolph, duke of Burgundy, 923. His claim was recognised, and Charles was confined in the Château Thierri, where he died in 923; he is supposed to have been poisoned by the Count of Vermandois.

His queen, Elgiva, an English princess, fled to England for protection, accompanied by her son Louis IV., surnamed "d'Outremer," or "The Stranger."

### RAOUL.

923—936.

HUGH THE GREAT, Count of Paris, and brother-in-law to Raoul, managed the affairs of the kingdom during this and the succeeding reign. The Hungarians, a people from the east of Asia, now invaded Europe. They ravaged Italy, and advanced into France as far as Toulouse, where they were defeated by the Count Raymond. In 939, however, having entered Burgundy, they gained a victory over Raoul. This king died in the year 936: he left no children. His queen was Emma, sister of Hugh the Great.

### LOUIS IV. D'OUTREMER.

936—954.

LOUIS, son of Charles the Simple, was with his mother

Elgiva, in England, at the court of his uncle, king Athelstone, when Hugh recalled him to France, in order to restore to him his right to the throne. The Count of Paris could easily have made himself king, but he preferred crowning the heir, intending at the same time to govern him, and to increase his own power. Soon after the accession of Louis, Hugh obtained for himself the duchy of Burgundy, which had belonged to Raoul.

Louis, after submitting to be governed by Hugh for a few years, became desirous of having the authority as well as the name of king, and a civil war ensued. The king received the homage of the nobles of Lorraine, who had revolted against the emperor ; Otho, on his part, allied himself with Hugh, the Duke of Normandy, and the Counts of Flanders and Vermandois, against Louis, whose position was becoming dangerous, when William, Count of Poictiers, marched to his rescue. Peace was then made, and Louis married a sister of Otho, in 939. William Duke of Normandy was assassinated by Arnulf, count of Flanders; he left one son, Richard, then aged ten years. Louis IV. obtained possession of this prince under pretence of having him educated at Laon, but in reality in order to govern Normandy himself. Hugh, Count of Paris, also wished to obtain this province, and the king not being able to carry out his designs without the help of Hugh, it was agreed that they should share Normandy equally, if they became masters of it. Richard would probably have been murdered had not his governor, Osmond, effected his escape by concealing him in a truss of hay and conveying him out of the castle ; he then reached his uncle Bernard, Count of Senlis, in safety. In the year

945 Bernard invited the king to a conference, when he made him prisoner, nor would he release him till he had accorded to the young prince the full rights and possessions of his father. Richard, some years later, married Anne, a daughter of Hugh.

The remainder of this reign passed in continual war with the Count of Paris, whose power was very great.

Louis IV. died in 954, aged 33 years. His death was caused by a fall from his horse while hunting. He left two sons, Lothaire and Charles of Lorraine.

## LOTHAIRE.

954—986.

LOTHAIRE, at the age of fourteen years, was crowned by Hugh, to whom he gave Aquitaine, but the Count did not obtain possession of it; he died in 956, leaving three sons; Otho, the eldest, received Burgundy; Hugh, surnamed "Capet," or "Clear-headed," succeeded his father as Count of Paris; and Eudes, who had Burgundy on the death of his brother Otho. During the minority of Lothaire and Hugh their mothers governed for them, under the protection of the Emperor Otho.

Charles, who had no part in the heritage of his brother Lothaire, profited by the troubles in Lorraine to put in his mother's claim to this province. Otho the great had died in 973, and his son Otho II., who had succeeded him, now gave Charles a part of the south of Lorraine, stipulating that he should pay homage for it. Lothaire, offended by this, without waiting to declare war, marched direct to Aix-la-Chapelle, where Otho was residing, intending to take him prisoner by surprise, but the emperor, warned of his

danger, escaped to Cologne; Lothaire pillaged the palace during two days. The next year Otho marched to France with 60,000 men, and encamped upon the heights of Montmartre, where he made his soldiers sing a Latin hymn; the sound of so many voices were so loud that it was heard in the Cathedral of Notre Dame. After this exploit, however, hearing that Lothaire and Hugh had united their forces, and were advancing against him, he retreated in haste. He reached the Aisne, near Soissons, without encountering the French, but here a battle was fought, in which he was defeated. Lothaire, who did not care to continue the war, now concluded a treaty with him, by which Otho gave up Lorraine to Lothaire and Charles. He offended his nobles by this moderation; many of them declared him to be more German than French, and went over to the side of Hugh Capet.

Lothaire, who died in 986, is said to have been poisoned by his queen, Emma. His son, Louis V., succeeded him.

### LOUIS V.

986—987.

Louis V., surnamed the "Fainéant," or the "Sluggard," was twenty years old at the time of his father's death, but being weak in mind and infirm in body, he was entirely governed by Hugh Capet. He died after a reign of a few months, his queen, Blanche, is supposed to have poisoned him. His brother, Charles, was of so contemptible a character that the nobles would not recognise him as king; but offered the crown to Hugh Capet, who was crowned in 987.

Louis V. was the last of the Carlovingian race; it had furnished kings during a period of 246 years.

## THIRD RACE : CAPETIANS.

FROM 987 TO 1848, UNDER 36 KINGS.

### FIRST BRANCH: DIRECT CAPETIANS.

341 YEARS, UNDER 14 KINGS: FROM 987 TO 1328.

#### HUGH CAPET.

987—996.

UPON the death of Louis V., Hugh Capet was chosen king by the nobles, and crowned at Rheims; some months later his son was anointed at Orleans.

At this period France was divided into several petty states, governed by dukes and counts. Hugh possessed the Isle of France, Paris, and Orleans, besides rich abbeys in other parts of France; his territory was comprised between the Meuse and the Loire. The Duke of Aquitaine and the Count of Paris revolted, and forced the king to carry war beyond the Loire. Charles of Lorraine seized the opportunity of Hugh's absence to take the city of Laon; he established himself in the palace, and caused himself to be proclaimed king by a few old retainers of his family; but his triumph was of short duration. Hugh took him prisoner and confined him in Orleans till his death, which took place in 992; he left three sons, of whom two were twins, a few months old; the eldest, Otho, succeeded his father as Duke of Lower Lorraine. He had also two daughters, the eldest, Countess of Namur, was

grandmother of Elizabeth of Flanders, who united the family of Charlemagne with that of Robert the Strong, by marrying Philip II.

The origin of “Peers” is traced to the reign of Hugh Capet; the word signified “equal;” thus the clergy were equal among themselves, dukes among themselves, counts among themselves, &c.

Hugh Capet died in 996, in the 56th year of his age, and was buried at St. Denis. By his first wife, Adelaide, he had one son, Robert the Pious, who succeeded him. By Blanche, widow of Louis V., he had no children.

## ROBERT THE PIOUS.

996—1031.

FRANCE was at this time desolated by a plague, which was followed by severe famine. The misery was so great that human flesh was sold, and, it is said, that at Macon 48 men’s heads were found in a barn, the bodies having been devoured. It was in the midst of this trouble, augmented by a general belief that with the year 1000 would come the end of the world, that Robert succeeded Hugh Capet. He was of a mild disposition, and but little fitted to cope with the troubles which surrounded him. He passed most of his time in the observance of religious ceremonies, and in the society of monks and minstrels, thereby neglecting his duties as king. He had been educated by Gerbert, who, later, became Pope Sylvester II. In 995 Robert married his cousin Bertha, widow of the Count of Chartres, and daughter of Conrad the Pacific, Duke of Burgundy. Pope Gregory V. declared the marriage void, as Robert and Bertha, besides being related, had been jointly god-parents to a child, and

the Romish Church forbids marriage between such relations. Robert, refusing to divorce his queen, was excommunicated, and the kingdom laid under an interdict: the churches were hung with black, and every religious ceremony, except baptism, suspended. The servants of the king are said either to have left him, or to have passed through fire every plate, etc., he had used. He submitted to the Pope at last, and Bertha retired to a convent at Chelles, where she lived several years. The second wife of Robert was Constance, daughter of the Duke of Toulouse, a proud, imperious, and gay woman, who caused him much unhappiness. She wished her favourite son, Robert, to be crowned during his father's lifetime, to the exclusion of the eldest son, Henry; this the king firmly opposed, and Henry was crowned.

The Duke of Burgundy, and uncle to Robert, died in 1002, without children; his duchy should then have reverted to the crown, but it was claimed by Otho William, his stepson, who was already Count of Burgundy. Robert, with the help of Richard II., of Normandy, carried war into the duchy in 1003, and again in 1005, with but little success; but in 1006 Otho William gave up his claims in favour of Henry, son of the French king, and received for himself Dijon, Macon, and Besancon. The Duke of Normandy died 1027, and was succeeded by his son Richard III.

Many anecdotes are related of the piety and charity of Robert. His life having been attempted, he caused the offenders to receive the Holy Communion, and then pardoned them, saying, when remonstrated with, "I cannot be revenged upon those whom my master has received at his table." In imitation of the humility of our Saviour, he

frequently washed the feet of beggars, by whom, indeed, he was generally surrounded. He was accustomed to say, when giving away any rich ornament, "Take care that Constance does not see you with it!" Robert the Pious died in 1031, at Melun, in the 60th year of his age. By his first wife, Bertha, he had no children; by Constance, of Provence, he had four sons and two daughters: Hugh, who died before his father; Eudes, an idiot; Henry, who became king, and Robert, the chief of the first house of Burgundy, which was of royal blood; Adela, who married Richard III., of Normandy, and Adelaide married Baldwin IV., Earl of Flanders.

## HENRY I.

1081—1060.

THIS king, who was in his 20th year at the time of his accession to the throne, was pious but weak. His mother excited her younger son Robert to revolt against him; Henry claimed the protection of Robert, Duke of Normandy (successor to Richard, whom he is said to have poisoned), and defeated his brother, to whom, however, he generously gave Burgundy. In gratitude for the service the duke had rendered him, Henry annexed to Normandy, Gisors, Pontoise, and the whole of the Vexin, which extended his province to within six leagues of Paris.

Eudes, who had been put aside on account of his imbecility, was now declared chief of a conspiracy, formed by a few dissatisfied nobles to dethrone Henry. But the Counts of Blois, Valois, Champagne, and Meulan, who created troubles in order to increase their own power, were defeated, the lands of the latter forfeited to the crown, and Eudes confined in Orleans. Robert II., of Normandy, having under-

taken a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, died on his homeward journey ; he had left his only child, afterwards our William the Conqueror, under the protection of Alain, Duke of Bretagne. When the news of Robert's death reached France, Henry I. set aside the claims of William, and invaded Normandy, but without success, and peace was made in 1055, but a thorough reconciliation was never effected ; this enmity was indeed the commencement of the disastrous quarrels which continued for so many years between the French kings and those of the Norman race in England. Until the Capetians felt themselves firmly established upon the throne of France, they had their eldest sons crowned during their lifetime, in order to secure the succession to them ; thus Henry's son, Philip, was crowned at Rheims in 1057, at the age of 7 years. The royal domain was enlarged during this reign by the acquisition of Meulan and Sens (this last county through the death of Earl Rainouard without issue). The power of the nobles increased greatly, and the affairs of the Church were in much disorder, benefices and even the Papal crown were sold to the highest bidder, at one time a child of nine or ten years old was elected Pope ; but in 1048, Leo, a man of known piety, was crowned ; he set to work earnestly, and soon reformed all abuses.

At this time the practice of duelling became so prevalent that it was necessary to institute a new law, called the "Trève de Dieu," by which fighting was forbidden from the Wednesday evening till the following Monday morning, also on Saints days, during Lent, and in the neighbourhood of Churches.

Henry I. died in 1060 ; by his wife, Anne of Russia, he

had three sons: Philip, who succeeded him, Hugh, Count of Vermandois, and Robert died young.

## PHILIP I.

1060—1108.

BAULDWIN, Earl of Flanders and brother-in-law to the late king, was appointed guardian to Philip; he committed a grave mistake in encouraging the expedition of William the Conqueror against England, thereby sowing the seeds of the great rivalry which afterwards existed between France and England. He died 1067, leaving two sons; Robert of Frize-land, and Bauldwin, who, although the youngest, inherited Flanders. In 1092 Philip divorced his queen, Bertha, and carried off the Countess of Anjou, her husband being alive; refusing to send her back, he was three times excommunicated, each time professing repentance, but still keeping the countess with him, for he had in the meantime persuaded some Norman priests to marry them. The nobles now revolted; Louis, the king's son, marched against them, and subdued them; Bertrade, the Countess of Anjou, it is said, attempted to poison him, and disliked him so much that he found it necessary to retire to England for a time. Philip was constantly at war with William the Conqueror, whose son Robert he excited to revolt; he also refused to put a stop to the incursions which the inhabitants of Mantes were making into Normandy. William attacked and burnt Mantes, and would have probably entirely defeated Philip, had he not died, in the year 1087. The Crusades, or wars undertaken for the purpose of wresting the Holy Sepulchre from the Saracens, began in this reign. The first Crusade was set on foot in 1096, by Peter the Hermit, who had wit-

nessed the cruel treatment the Christians received from the Saracens. It was at the Council of Clermont, assembled in order to excommunicate Philip I., in 1095, that Peter gave such an account of the sufferings endured by the Christians that Pope Urban II. resolved to go into France to preach a war against the Infidels, promising absolution and indulgences to all who would take up arms ; the people of Clermont were so moved by the representations made to them by the Pope, that they took up the cross, shouting, “*Dieu le veut ! Dieu le veut !*” (“God wills it !”) The first army, under Peter the Hermit and Walter the Pennyless, a Norman gentleman, left France on March 8th, 1096 ; but these leaders had no idea of the distance to the Holy Land, and but a very imperfect knowledge of geography ; they often led the people out of the right track ; they suffered much from want of food, and plundered the countries through which they passed ; the inhabitants, in their turn, rose up against them, and a great number of the Crusaders were killed, and their bodies thrown into the Danube. The army was exterminated, a few men only reached the shores of the Bosphorus, and they were killed by the Turks. Peter and Walter, however, lived to return to France. The second army was commanded by Godfrey of Bouillon, and the third by Hugh of Vermandois, the king's brother, and Raymond, Earl of Toulouse. This army, composed of more than 300,000 men, which number was much increased during the journey, reached Constantinople, to the astonishment and fear of the Emperor Alexis, whom they treated with insolence, and who, perhaps, also behaved deceitfully towards them. After a short sojourn here, they entered Asia, gained some brilliant victories, and took Jerusalem 15th July, 1099. The crown was

offered to and accepted by Godfrey, who made a code of laws for his subjects, known as "Assises of Jerusalem." Three other principalities were formed, Tripoli and Edessa, which submitted to Godfrey, and Antioch, which refused to recognise him as king. In the interval between the first and second Crusades, two religious orders were founded, the "Hospitallers," of which Raymond de Puy was the first Grand Master, and the "Knights Templars."

Philip I. died in 1108, having reigned nearly fifty years; he considered himself unworthy of interment at St. Denis, the usual burial-place of the French monarchs, and desired that his body should be taken to the Abbey of St. Benoit, on the Loire. During the latter years of his reign Philip gave himself up entirely to pleasure and indolence, leaving the affairs of the kingdom to the care of his son Louis; his queens were—1st, Bertha of Holland, whom he divorced, and by whom he had a son, Louis, who succeeded him, and one daughter, Constance, who married the Prince of Antioch; 2ndly, Bertrade, Countess of Anjou, by whom he had two sons, Philip and Fleury. A kind of money was circulated during this reign, but it was merely a round piece of leather, with a small silver nail put through the centre. The remarkable men of Philip's reign were Pope Urban II., Peter the Hermit, Godfrey of Bouillon, and William the Conqueror. The royal domain was slightly increased by the addition of Bourges, which was sold to the king by the Viscount of Bourges, who joined the Crusaders.

## LOUIS VI., THE GROSS.

1108—1137.

LOUIS VI. found it very difficult to make the vassals submit

to him ; they besieged him in Paris for some time, but he finally subdued them, helped by the "Bourgeois," or middle class of the people. War broke out between this king and Henry I. of England, the pretext assigned being the possession of Gisors ; the real cause, jealousy of the power of each other. In 1119, the battle of Brenneville was fought, in which Louis was nearly taken prisoner ; an English soldier having seized his bridle, called out, "The king is taken ;" but Louis, replying, "Do you not know that in chess the king is never taken ?" struck him dead at his feet and escaped. In this battle three knights only were killed. When war was again renewed with the English, the Emperor, Henry V., joined his father-in-law, Henry of England, against the French, but the vassals hastened to the assistance of Louis, and the Germans retreated without fighting. In this reign the "Bourgeoisie" was established. Laon and Amiens particularly wished for liberty, and obtained it ; they were allowed to elect a mayor and sheriffs ; their earls gave them charters, to which Louis affixed his seal, so that in future these lords would not trouble them without incurring the displeasure of the king. In the most important towns of France, carpenters, goldsmiths, brewers, weavers, coopers, etc., established themselves ; they would not submit to the treatment dealt to the slaves by their lords, and it is from them, in the first place, that the class called "Bourgeois" sprang. Schools were opened, the University of Paris assumed a regular form, the power of the nobles was greatly decreased, and the people were more enlightened and happier.

Charles the Good, Earl of Flanders, having died in 1127, without issue, Louis went with an army to Arras, and caused William Cloton to be elected by the assembled states ; the

towns of Flanders, however, deposed him, and elected Thierry of Alsace in his stead. Cloton died in 1128.

In 1137, Louis married his son to Eleanor of Aquitaine, who being heiress to several provinces of France, added greatly to the domains of the crown; but the marriage was an unhappy one, and after Louis VII. became king he divorced her.

Louis VI. died in 1137, leaving one son, Louis VII., who succeeded him.

The most enlightened man of this period was the Abbé Ségur.

## LOUIS VII.

1137—1180.

THE vassals were now called "Barons," or "Freed-men," and their assemblies received the name of "Parliaments."

Louis VII. made an expedition to the south of France, in order to reclaim Languedoc, in right of his wife Eleanor, but he did not succeed in this enterprise, for his nobles refused to help him; he was the first French king who passed the boundaries of the Loire, and extended his dominions into the southern provinces of ancient Gaul. France was now divided into two parts, distinguished by their different languages; that called "Langue d'Oil," on the north of the Loire, from the inhabitants using the word "Oil" for an affirmative; and that called "Langue d'Oc" from the people of the south using the word "Oc" in the same manner. In 1142 Louis marched against Thibaud, Earl of Champagne, who was endeavouring to nominate a nephew of the Pope, Archbishop of Bourges; he took Vitry after a long siege, and, angered by the long resistance made by the inhabitants, he caused the castle to be set on fire; the flames

spread to the principal church of the town, and 1300 persons who had gone there for safety perished. The dying shrieks of these poor wretches caused the king so much horror and remorse that he at once made peace with Thibaud; but he was excommunicated by the Pope, and only obtained pardon by promising to undertake and conduct a fresh Crusade against the Saracens. This Crusade was preached in 1146 by St. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux.

Louis left France with his queen in the spring of 1147, in spite of the remonstrances of Ségur, his minister, to whom he left the government of his kingdom. He arrived at Constantinople without many mishaps, and was tolerably well received by the Emperor Manuel. He next proceeded towards Satalia, but was met by the Turks and sustained a severe defeat, his army being almost entirely destroyed. The king, however, arrived at Jerusalem, and then returned to France, where he arrived in 1149; his subjects received him with reproaches for having caused the death of so many Frenchmen.

After the death of Ségur Louis VII. divorced Eleanor, returning to her the Duchy of Guienne, which he had received as her portion. She soon after married Henry, Duke of Normandy, heir apparent to the English crown. Louis was much mortified upon learning this marriage, and there was continual war between England and France; the French king protecting Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was in disgrace with Henry II. When Becket was killed, some time afterwards, by some of the English lords, Louis made a pilgrimage to his tomb, to pray for the recovery from severe illness of his son.

Louis VII. was succeeded by his son Philip, who had been

crowned during his father's lifetime.

The learned men of this time were St. Bernard, Abelard, and Peter the Venerable.

The Troubadours, a kind of wandering minstrels, first appeared in this reign.

## PHILIP II., AUGUSTUS.

1180—1223.

PHILIP was considered by the Counts of Champagne and Flanders as too young to reign alone, and they tried to govern him; but Philip had early shown great impatience of control, and was determined not to be ruled by his vassals. He obliged these noblemen to submit to him, and took Artois and Vermandois from the Count of Flanders. In this reign the order of the Capuchine Friars was established, to defend the churches, monasteries, etc., against bands of robbers, who were constantly pillaging them.

Guy of Lusignan having been totally defeated by Saladin, Sultan of Egypt, in 1187, Jerusalem and the Holy Land were in possession of the Musulmans. The kings of France and England undertook a third Crusade in 1188, and a tax was levied to pay the necessary expences, but the money collected was squandered before the departure of the kings. Philip embarked at Génés, and Richard Cœur de Lion at Marseilles. They met in Sicily, where they determined to pass the winter, and here their quarrels commenced. Philip was the first to leave this island, he went to St. Jean d'Acre, which Guy of Lusignan had been besieging for two years. Richard arrived two months later, having been delayed by his marriage with Berengaria, daughter of the king of Navarre, and by the conquest of Cyprus. Acre was taken, and Philip,

whose disputes with Richard had continued during the siege, returned to France on the plea of ill-health, leaving 10,000 men under the command of the Duke of Burgundy. Richard continued the war, and, after having gained some advantages, concluded a truce with Saladin, by which it was agreed that the Christians should be allowed to freely visit Jerusalem and the Holy Sepulchre.

Upon his return to France Philip had encouraged the ambition of John Lack-land, brother to Richard, and had taken possession of the Vexin, and of a part of Normandy. While returning through Europe, the English king had been detained prisoner in Austria, by the Emperor Henry II., and confined in the castle of Trifel. Blondel, the king's minstrel, discovered the place of his master's captivity, and the English nobles having collected a sufficient sum of money ransomed their king. Upon receiving this news Philip wrote to John, "Take care of yourself, the devil is unchained!" War broke out in Normandy, Guienne, and Touraine; Philip was defeated at the battle of Fréteval, in 1194; he here lost the registers and documents belonging to the crown; this mishap caused him to erect a building in Paris, in which the royal archives were afterwards always deposited. A truce of five years was at last concluded between the two kings, during which Richard was killed at the siege of Chalus Chabrol, in 1199. As he left no children the crown devolved upon his nephew Arthur, son of Goeffry, the third son of Henry II., whereas John was the fourth son only; he however caused himself to be proclaimed king. Philip took the part of Arthur, and fought against his uncle; but the young prince was taken prisoner and conducted to Rouen, where, after having in vain endeavoured to persuade him to

give up his claims to the throne, John murdered him and had his body thrown into the Seine ; the Bretons denounced John to Philip Augustus as the assassin of his nephew ; he was summoned to appear before a council of peers, but he refused, and was then declared guilty of treason, and condemned to lose all the states he held on doing homage. Too weak to resist, John fled to England, and Philip took possession of Normandy, Anjou, Touraine, Maine and Poitou, which gave back to France the superiority she had lost by the divorce of Louis VII. and the marriage of Eleanor with Henry of England.

In 1202 Pope Innocent III. caused a fourth Crusade to be preached by Foulques de Neuilly ; a number of French nobles took up arms, and an army left France commanded by Bauldwin, Earl of Flanders. The Doge of Venice also joined the Crusaders, whose first exploit was the capture of Zara for the Venetians. Constantinople was next besieged and taken for the Emperor Isaac Comnenes, who had been deposed by his brother Alexis. A new Latin Empire was founded in 1204, on the ruins of the Grecian Empire ; the first emperor was Bauldwin, Earl of Flanders, who reigned three years, and is then supposed to have been put to death by the Bulgarians.

A formidable league, composed of Otho IV., Ferrand Count of Flanders, and John Lackland, was formed against Philip in 1214 ; he met his enemies with an army of 70,000 men at Bouvines, and gained a complete victory.

A Crusade of a deplorable nature desolated the south of France ; it was undertaken against the inhabitants of Languedoc and Provence, who were called Albigenses, from the fact of a great number of them inhabiting the town of

Alby. Simon de Montfort was one of their cruellest persecutors ; he was killed at the siege of Toulouse in 1218 ; Raymond, Count of Toulouse, defended them. The Crusaders engaged themselves for forty days, at the end of which they left the army. This war lasted for ten years, and was a long tissue of crimes and massacres ; the so-called heretics were never entirely subdued. The order of Dominican Friars was established to aid in persecuting, the Albigenses. Their first convent was in the Rue St. Jacques, in Paris.

Philip was excommunicated in 1193, for divorcing Ingelburg, daughter of Waldemar I., king of Denmark, in order to marry Agnes of Meran, a German princess. He was forced to take back Ingelburg, for whom he never felt anything but aversion. Agnes soon after died of grief.

Philip died in 1223, after a reign of 43 years. His first queen was Isabella, of Hainault, whom he married in 1189, and who was the mother of Louis VIII.

Philip greatly embellished Paris : he caused the streets to be paved, and warehouses to be built, surrounded by walls, for the goods of the merchants. The Louvre was built, many schools and colleges founded, and scholars protected and encouraged. Lazar houses for the reception of lepers were also erected in the principal towns of France. Philip Augustus was the first king who had a guard for the protection of his person.

## LOUIS VIII.

1223—1226.

LOUIS VIII. and his queen were crowned at Rheims ; Henry III. of England as a vassal, was summoned to attend, and refused. War ensued, and Louis took possession of Limousin

Perigord, and several other places. He then by the advice of Amaury de Montford, advanced against the Albigenses at the head of 5,000 men. Avignon was besieged and taken. Louis advanced as far as Toulouse, without meeting with any resistance ; the Count Raymond kept upon the defensive, and let the king's army be consumed by fever, caused by the intense heat and the smell of the dead horses which perished in great numbers from want of food. Louis returned towards Paris, but was attacked by fever, and died at Montpensier, in Auvergne. By his wife Blanche of Castille, he had issue, Louis IV. king ; Charles of Anjou, king of Naples ; Robert of Artois ; Alphonso, of Poitiers, and Elizabeth, who founded the Abbey of Longchamps.

The war against the Albigenses was now ended ; many of their descendants are still living in the Cevennes in Piedmont.

The south part of ancient Gaul was now definitely joined to France, under the name of Vaud.

## LOUIS IX.

1226—1270.

BLANCHE OF CASTILLE was made regent of France during the minority of her son ; she was an excellent woman, anxious to educate her son well and piously, and to do good to his subjects. The nobles, however, leagued against her, and claimed the lands forfeited by Philip II. and Louis VIII. These nobles, among whom were the Duke of Brittany, Hugh of Lusignan, Earl of Marche and Angoulême, Raymond VII., Count of Toulouse, and Thibaud, Earl of Champagne, refused to assist at the coronation of the King, and joined the King of England against him. Blanche forced them to submit, and weakened the power of the Earl of Champagne, by buying

several of his estates, which he was forced to sell in order to pay an indemnity to Alice, Queen of Cyprus, who had pretensions to the province of Champagne.

In 1234 Louis married Margaret of Provence; although declared of age, and fit to govern alone in 1236, Louis still followed the counsels of his mother, and gave up most of his authority to her. In 1242 Louis marched against Lusignan, Earl of Marche, who, aided by Henry of England, had again revolted; Louis easily defeated him, gaining the victories of Taillebourg and of Saintes. The King of England then abandoned the cause of the vassals, who submitted to their king, and this is the last time we hear of the French nobles taking up arms against their sovereign.

During a severe and dangerous illness, Louis made a vow to go to the Holy Land. His mother, his wife, and his wisest ministers in vain tried to dissuade him from undertaking such an expedition. He put the affairs of his kingdom in order, appointed Blanche regent, and sailed in August, 1248, from Aigues Mortes, accompanied by his queen, and his brothers, the Counts of Provence, of Anjou and of Artois. Louis passed the winter at Cyprus, and then embarked for Egypt: upon arriving there he put to flight the Arabs who guarded the coast, and took Damietta, but instead of following up this victory and advancing into Egypt, Louis lost much precious time by waiting for his brother, the Count of Poitiers. Upon his arrival they set out for Cairo, having first fortified Damietta, where they left Queen Margaret. In 1250 Louis vanquished the infidels at Massoura, but he lost the fruits of this victory by the imprudence and the death of his brother Robert of Artois, who pursued the enemy and was killed with a number of his men.

Made prisoner, while attempting a difficult retreat, Louis excited the admiration of the infidels by his bravery and generosity. He paid a sum of 400,000 pounds of silver for the ransom of his chevaliers, and gave Damietta for his own; then after having visited Jerusalem he returned to France in 1254. Queen Blanche had died during the absence of Louis; she had given many years of happiness to his subjects by her wise administration, and he continued her good work; he administered justice himself, seated in the shade of the trees of Vincennes. However he still desired greatly to deliver the Christians of the Holy Land from the Saracens, and undertook a second crusade in 1270; he directed his forces against the Bey of Tunis before proceeding to the East, in order to avenge a quarrel with his brother Charles of Anjou, King of Naples. A disease, however, broke out in his army, and greatly diminished it; the King himself was attacked by it, and died before Tunis, 25th August, 1270.

The sons of Louis IV. were Philip III.; Tristan, born at Damietta, died at Tunis with his father; and Robert of Clermont, who, by his marriage with Beatrice of Burgundy, heiress of Bourbon, became chief of the house of Bourbon.

In this reign a custom was abolished which had been observed since the times of the Franks, namely, that called the "Judgment of God," by which, when two men had a law-suit pending, their lords, instead of giving judgment, obliged them to fight in their presence, till one was either killed or owned himself vanquished; the king made a law which forbade fighting, and forced the judges to listen to both adversaries and their witnesses, and then to decide the case in a just and impartial manner. The lords, who understood little but fighting, were displeased, and Louis then appointed men who

had studied law in the university of Paris, and who belonged to the "Bourgeoisie," to go from place to place to deliver judgment in all such disputes. This act was of great benefit to France, and was appreciated by the poor peasants.

The college of Sorbonne, so named from Robert de Sorbon, confessor to Louis, and which became so famous as a theological university, was founded at this time.

Louis IX. was canonized by Pope Urban VIII., nearly thirty years after his death.

### PHILIP III., THE HARDY.

1270—1285.

PHILIP III. concluded a treaty of peace with the Bey of Tunis, which was advantageous to the Christians and to the King of Naples. The epoch of the Crusades now ends.

The king quelled a revolt, headed by the Count of Foix, who had unjustly taken lands from one of his vassals in 1276; he was preparing to pass into Spain, when domestic troubles retained him in France. Upon the death of Isabella of Anjou, Philip had married Maria of Brabant. Pierre de la Brosse, who had been barber to King Louis IX., but whom Philip had raised to the rank of first minister, and in whom he had great confidence, became jealous of the queen and afraid of her influence over the king; he therefore accused her of having poisoned Louis, the eldest son of Philip and Isabella. Maria was thrown into prison, but the king was most anxious that her innocence should be proved. Her brother sent her a champion to prove it by single combat; it is said by some authors that Labrosse was defeated, by others that he refused to fight, and was hung; and by others, again, that he confessed to having caused the death of the

prince himself, and was then put to death. Be that as it may, it is certain that the queen's innocence was declared proved, and that she lived happily with the king afterwards.

Charles of Anjou, King of Naples, was daily increasing in power; he had bought the title of King of Jerusalem, and had conquered Sicily and Naples, till then governed by the imperial house of Suabia. In this he had been opposed by Prince Conradin, whom he took prisoner and beheaded. Already disliked by the Sicilians, this act caused a general hatred of Charles and of the French, and a conspiracy was formed and headed by John of Procida, to expel Charles and put Pedro III., of Spain, upon the throne. Everything being ready, Monday in Easter week, 1282, was fixed for a general massacre of the French. At the sound of the Vesper bells, the massacre began, about 8,000 people were killed throughout the island, one town only, Sperlinga, gave shelter to a few fugitives, and it is said only two Frenchmen escaped; William de Porcelets, and Scalambre. Charles, aided by Philip, determined to punish the Sicilians, but Spain helped them, and the contest ended by Peter of Aragon being crowned. Philip III. then marched towards Spain, but he was attacked by a fever which broke out in his army, and he died at Perpignan in 1285, aged 40 years.

By Isabella, of Aragon, Philip had three sons: Philip IV. succeeded him, Charles of Valois, and Louis died by poison; by Maria of Brabant his children were, Louis Count of Evreux, and Margaret married Edward I. of England.

By the death of Alphonso of Poitiers, Philip inherited the provinces of Poitou, Auvergne, and Toulouse.

It is remarkable that in this reign a commoner was first

ennobled, in the person of Raoul de Crépy, goldsmith to the king.

## PHILIP IV., THE FAIR.

1285—1314.

AFTER a long peace between France and England, a quarrel between an English and a Norman sailor caused a rupture. Philip IV. summoned the English sailor to appear before a French tribunal, but Edward of England replied there were judges in his provinces who should pronounce sentence upon the accused. The French king upon receiving this reply, sent troops to take possession of Guienne, and himself marched against the Flemings, allies of the English, and gained a victory over them in 1297. The treaty of Montreuil-sur-Mer, signed in 1299, left to Philip the places he had taken in Aquitaine. Margaret, sister of the king, married Edward I., and his daughter, Isabella, the Prince Edward, who became Edward II.

The cruelty of Philip towards Flanders, caused the inhabitants to revolt, and 1,500 Frenchmen were massacred at Bruges. Robert of Artois marched into Flanders, but lost the battle of Courtray, 1302, in which both he and his son perished. After the battle 4,000 gilt spurs, worn only by knights and nobles, were collected on the field by the Flemings, and suspended in the church at Courtray. In 1304 the Flemings were defeated at Mons-en-Puelle; they were obliged to agree to the conditions of peace imposed by Philip, and to give up to him Lisle and Douai. An angry war of words now rose between Philip and the Pope Boniface VIII., relative to a levy of subsidies made by the king; an insulting bull of the Pope's was torn up in the council chamber by Robert of

Artois at the commencement of the troubles in Flanders ; the family of the Colonna, exiled by Boniface, were received and protected by Philip, who also confined the Pope's legate at Senlis. Boniface then threatened to lay the kingdom under an interdict. Philip assembled the nobles, the clergy, and the people at Notre Dame de Paris, 1302, to debate upon the measures to be adopted. This assembly was called the States General. The assembly condemned the conduct of the Pope, and Philip, who feared excommunication, sent men devoted to his cause into Italy to seize the Pope ; he was suddenly invested in the city of Anagnia, but he refused the conditions offered by the king, saying "Here is my neck ; here is my head ; betrayed like Jesus Christ, at least I will die Pope." He was delivered by his partizans, but died very soon after at Rome.

The Templars, a religious and military order, founded at the time of the Crusades, were persecuted by Philip. They had been established to protect Jerusalem and pilgrims to the Holy Land, from the infidels, but at this time they lived as monks and enjoyed immense possessions and riches in France. Philip, afraid of their power, determined to suppress the Order. All the knights then in France, were arrested on the same day, and were accused of frightful crimes ; some denied everything, others confessed and then retracted. More than one hundred were burnt to death, among whom was their grand master, de Molai ; while at the stake de Molai is said to have summoned the Pope, Clement V., to appear before the tribunal of God in forty days, and the king before the end of the year. All their possessions were confiscated to the crown, and the Order abolished by the Pope.

Philip died in 1314, leaving three sons, Louis X., Philip

V., and Charles IV., and one daughter, Isabella, wife of Edward II. of England. The government of Philip IV. had been very oppressive ; he increased the taxes, and debased the coinage ; the royal power became almost absolute.

## LOUIS X., THE BOISTEROUS.

1314—1316.

LOUIS X. was the first king who had the title of King of France and Navarre, which last kingdom he possessed in right of his mother Jane, Queen of Navarre.

Charles of Valois, uncle to Louis, took the chief direction of affairs. The treasury having been found nearly empty at the accession of Louis, Enguerrand de Marigny, minister to the late king, was accused of theft, and condemned to be hung by Charles of Valois. Some years after Charles, suffering from a dangerous malady, caused himself to be carried through the streets of Paris, and distributed alms to the people, saying, “Good people, pray to God for Enguerrand de Marigny and Charles of Valois.”

In order to augment his revenues, Louis X. sold their liberty to the serfs in all the royal domains, but as these unfortunate people would not pay for a blessing they did not know the value of, their goods and cattle were seized and sold, and a law was then made to oblige them to purchase their enfranchisement.

Louis died after a short reign of two years ; it is supposed he was poisoned. He left one daughter, Jane, who married Philip, Count of Evreux.

## PHILIP V., THE LONG.

1316—1322.

PHILIP V., Count of Poitiers, second son of Philip IV., and

brother of Louis V., was made king, to the exclusion of the daughter of Louis X.; this is the first application of the Salic law. Philip persecuted the Jews, the lepers, and the religious sect named the Bégards; they were burned or poisoned, and their property confiscated. He established a certain standard for the coin, and for weights and measures throughout France, continued the enfranchisement of the serfs, and made some useful laws. At his death he left daughters only, who were excluded from the throne.

### CHARLES IV., THE FAIR.

1322—1328.

CHARLES divorced his queen, Blanch, who had been confined in prison, on account of the levity of her conduct, and married Mary, daughter of Henry, Emperor of Germany. One of the first acts of this king was to seize the possessions of the Lombards (who were enormously rich, and by whom money transactions were principally carried on), and to drive them out of the kingdom.

With the death of Charles IV. ends the family of the Capetians, as he left no son.

## FOURTH RACE: VALOIS.

FROM 1328 TO 1498, UNDER 7 KINGS.

### PHILIP VI. OF VALOIS.

1328—1350.

Philip VI. succeeded to the throne in right of descent from Philip III., by his father, Charles of Valois.

Edward III. of England pretended to claim the throne in right of his mother Isabella, daughter of Philip IV., but the States-General declared that as the Salic law excluded women from the throne, they could not bequeath rights to their sons which they did not possess themselves, and Philip VI. was crowned accordingly.

Philip VI., in order to avoid the reclamations of Philip of Evreux, husband of Jane, daughter of Louis X., gave up to him the sovereignty of Navarre, of which the two last kings had retained possession. Philip renounced at the same time the earldoms of Brie and of Champagne, which remained united to the crown.

Philip began his reign with an expedition to Flanders, in order to defend the earl against his subjects. He laid siege to Cassel, the inhabitants of which had placed a wooden cock upon their walls, with the inscription, "When this cock shall crow, the king shall conquer Cassel." Philip took the town, and almost entirely destroyed it.

Robert of Artois, prince of the blood royal, who had greatly contributed to the elevation of Philip VI. to the

throne, having in vain reclaimed the province of Artois, retired from France and joined the king of England in a war against Philip. Edward III. took at Westminster the title of King of France, and commenced the war in Flanders ; he took some towns and obtained the alliance of John Artevelte, a rich brewer of Gand, who had a great deal of influence.

In 1340 the French fleet was defeated off Sluys, with a loss of 30,000 men.

The Duke of Bretagne, John III., having died without children, his niece Jane, of Penthievre, and his brother John, of Montford, disputed the succession. Charles of Blois, husband of Jane, and nephew of Philip VI., was helped by the King of France, while the claims of Montford were sustained by the King of England ; besieged in Nantes, Montford was forced to capitulate, and was confined in the Louvre ; his wife, Jane of Flanders, put herself at the head of his party and continued the war. Edward III. advanced to within a few miles of Paris, and then went towards Picardy. Philip followed, and attacked him without precaution in the plains of Cressy, but his army was totally defeated. Edward then besieged Calais. Philip tried to advance to the succour of the town, but was obliged to retire. In 1347 Calais surrendered after a siege of eleven months. Edward promised a general pardon, provided that five of the principal citizens gave themselves up to him. Eustace de St. Pierre was the first to offer himself. Philippa of Hainault, wife of Edward III., however obtained their pardon, but the inhabitants of Calais were forced to leave their town, which Edward peopled with his own subjects.

Charles of Blois was made prisoner and sent to London ; his wife, Jane of Penthievre, continued the war.

A dreadful pestilence desolated Europe at this time ; it was called the Black Plague. Having attacked both France and England, the two kings became desirous of peace, which was soon concluded, Edward III. keeping possession of Calais.

Philip VI. made a tax called the Gabelle, or tax on Salt, which distressed the people greatly.

Philip purchased Montpelier and Dauphiny, from which last comes the title of Dauphin, taken by the eldest sons of the Kings of France. Philip VI. died in 1350, leaving two sons, John II., the Good, and Philip of Orleans.

## JOHN II., THE GOOD.

1350—1364.

IN 1355 John assembled the States-General, in order to obtain money with which to continue war against England. The states consented to a tax being levied, upon condition that it be enforced throughout the kingdom, and even upon the royal family.

The king caused the Constable d'Eu to be beheaded upon suspicion of being in league with the English ; he bestowed the title of Constable upon one of his favourites, whom he at the same time created Earl of Angoulême. By this act he made a formidable enemy of Charles of Navarre, surnamed the Bad, who coveted this earldom ; Charles was the son of Jane of Evreux, Queen of Navarre, and grandson of Louis X., and he had married one of John's daughters. The new constable was soon after his elevation to this dignity found murdered in his bed. Charles of Navarre was accused of the crime, and in fact boasted of having caused the assassination. He was now completely in disgrace, and took no pains

to conceal his daring and bad character. He tried to dissuade the people from paying the taxes, allied himself to England, entered into a conspiracy to dethrone the Valois, and even led the dauphin to revolt against the king. John, however, instructed of all these proceedings, went himself to Rouen and took Charles prisoner; he shut him up in the castle Gaillard, and had several Norman nobles, his partisans, beheaded.

In 1356 war recommenced with England. Edward, the Black Prince, who had been made Duke of Guienne by his father, not content with his own duchy, ravaged John's territories at the head of 15,000 men, but at the approach of the French king with an army 80,000 strong he retired to Poitiers, and offered to give up his conquests and his prisoners, but John would accept no other terms than the surrender of the Prince himself and one hundred of his knights. Edward preferred the chances of a battle to such conditions, and on the morning of the 19th September, 1356, was fought the famous battle of Poitiers. The King of France fought bravely, and although twice wounded in the face, refused to leave the field, till at last seeing all hope of victory over he surrendered himself to Denis de Morbec, a French noble in the English service. The Black Prince conducted him to Bordeaux and from thence to London, where he was received with respect by Edward and his queen Philippa. He was lodged in the palace of the Savoy, and treated as a guest during the whole time of his captivity. A truce was made with the English for two years.

The dauphin, then aged 19 years, was appointed Regent: he assembled the States-General at Paris. Much trouble was caused him by Stephen Marcel, provost of the merchants,

and Robert Lecoq, bishop of Laon, partisans of Charles of Navarre, who having been freed from prison, came direct to Paris, and claimed the throne 1358. Marcel invaded the palace, and murdered some Norman noblemen in the presence of the dauphin : the blood of these unfortunate men is even said to have stained his clothes. The dauphin then transferred the States to Compiegne. The conduct of Marcel at this time caused many of the nobles to abandon him.

The peasants of the Isle of France and of Picardy now rose up against the nobles, who oppressed them greatly. English, French, even Charles of Navarre, united to quell this revolt of the "Jacquerie :" much blood was shed before this was accomplished. The peasants were called Jacques Bonhomme by the nobles, probably from a sort of short coat they wore, called Jacques. Marcel, who had sided with them, lost his popularity. Charles of Navarre besieged Paris, and Marcel consented to give him admittance by opening the gate of St. Denis to him, but at the moment of doing so he was killed by a man named John Maillard, who suspected his design. Upon the death of Marcel, Charles the Bad was discouraged, tranquility was restored, and the regent re-entered Paris, 24th August, 1358.

In 1360 the dauphin concluded with England the treaty of Bretigny ; Edward of England renounced his pretensions to the French throne, but retained possession of Aquitaine, Perigord, Poiton, Saintonge, Limousin, Calais, and all the places taken by the Black Prince in Guienne. The French were also to pay a ransom of three millions of gold in three years for their king, who returned to France after the first payment had been made, leaving his three youngest sons as hostages. King John had been a prisoner for four years. A

plague, which carried off 30,000 people, now ravaged France ; bands of adventurers took this opportunity of pillaging and adding to the general famine. The Duke of Bourbon was sent against them, but was slain at the battle of Brignais in 1361. The Earl of Montferrat then attacked and defeated them.

In 1361 John inherited Burgundy by the death of Philip of Rouvre : he bestowed it upon his fourth son Philip, who thus became chief of the first royal house of Burgundy.

It had been John's intention to undertake a Crusade to the Holy Land, but he was prevented doing so by hearing that his son, the Duke of Anjou, whom he had left as hostage at Calais, had escaped to France, and refused to return. John regarding this as a breach of his own honour, returned to England and surrendered himself again a prisoner to king Edward, saying, "If honour were banished from the earth, it should still be found in the breast of kings." Soon after his arrival in London he was taken ill, and died in the palace of the Savoy on the 8th April, 1364 ; he was buried first in England, all honour being shown to his remains, which were afterwards removed to the Abbey of St. Denis. John was married first to Bona, daughter to the King of Bohemia, and secondly to Jane of Boulogne. He had four sons and four daughters : Charles succeeded his father ; Louis, Duke of Anjou ; John, Duke of Berri ; Philip, Duke of Burgundy ; Maria, Jane, Isabella, and Margaret.

## CHARLES V., SURNAMED THE WISE.

1364—1380.

IN the first year of the reign of Charles V. Du Guesclin, a knight of Bretagne gained a victory over Charles the Bad

at Cocherel. Before the battle he said to his troops "We have a new king, let his crown be wreathed by us." The same year, however, Du Gueslin was defeated and taken prisoner by the troops of Jane de Montford. In 1365 a treaty was concluded, by which the son of John de Montford and of Jane of Flanders, was recognised Duke of Bretagne, Jane, widow of Charles de Blois, retaining only Penthievre, and receiving a sum of 10,000 livres. In 1365 Charles the Bad also obtained peace by giving up to the king Meulan, Mantes and Longueville: this last province was bestowed on Du Guesclin as a reward for his valour. His ransom was paid by Charles V., who then sent him, at the head of a large army, into Spain, to the assistance of Henry of Trastamare, who was disputing the crown of Castile with his half-brother Pedro the Cruel. At the approach of this army Pedro retired into Aquitaine to apply for help to the Prince of Wales, who advanced into Spain and gained the battle of Najara over Henry of Trastamare April 3rd., 1367. Du Guesclin was taken prisoner, and Pedro placed upon the throne; but the next year he was defeated and killed in battle, and Henry of Trastamare was established upon the throne of Castile.

Weak and ill, Charles V. could not himself command his troops, but he knew how to choose clever generals, and Edward III. said that no prince at the head of his armies had given so much trouble as Charles V. from his cabinet. The health of the Black Prince was also failing, and his temper, formerly merciful and forgiving, was now from his sufferings become irritable and often cruel. The nobles of Gascony grew discontented, and asked help from the King of France, who cited the prince to appear before the Court of Peers. Edward, upon receiving the message, said: "We will obey

this summons, but it shall be armed, and with 60,000 men in our company." But he was daily losing his old energy, and Charles showed his contempt for him by sending a declaration of war to Edward III. by one of his kitchen servants. In 1374 the French possessions of the English consisted of Calais, Bayonne, and Bordeaux only.

Du Guesclin died in 1380 at the siege of Chateau Neuf de Baudon, in Languedoc. The governor of the castle had promised to surrender it at the end of eight days, if not relieved by that time; but Du Guesclin, ill of fever, expired before the day specified, and the governor, faithful to his promise, placed the keys of his castle upon the bier of the brave constable.

In place of the States-General, Charles had the assemblies called Beds of Justice, in which the king, surrounded by his parliament, clergy and nobles, arranged the affairs of the kingdom. He forbade private wars, arranged the formation of his army, and ordered that justice should be rendered gratuitously to the poor. He fixed the majority of the kings at fourteen years. The palaces of Vincennes, St. Germain, and Melun were built during this reign, and the royal library, which was placed in the Louvre, was founded.

Charles V., by his wife Jane of Bourbon, had two sons and one daughter: Charles VI., king, Louis, chief of the first house of Orleans, and Catherine.

## CHARLES VI.

1380—1422.

THE young king being a minor, his uncles were made regents. The Duke of Anjou took most of the power into his own hands, and wasted the money accumulated by Charles V., to

the great dissatisfaction of the people. In 1382 the Parisians tired of the heavy taxation they had to bear, rose up en masse, under the name of Maillotins, because of leaden mallets with which they killed the tax-gatherers.

The Flemings having risen against their earl, Charles marched to his assistance, and gained a victory at Rosebec, which was followed by the massacre of the inhabitants of Courtray. The young king then returned to France, and quelled the revolt in Paris. Charles remained under the influence of his uncles for some years after having attained his majority; he did not reign alone until twenty-one years old, and he then surrounded himself with the ministers and advisers of Charles V. His favourite Oliver du Clisson having been attacked by a creature of the Duke of Bretagne in the streets of Paris, and the Duke refusing to give him up to the king, an expedition was undertaken against Bretagne, and it was then that Charles VI. was first attacked by madness. As he was traversing a forest a madman, half clad, sprang into his path, seized the horse's bridle and cried out: "King advance no further; you are betrayed!" He then disappeared. The king remained apparently thoughtful and calm, but a short time after a lance hitting some armour, the noise startled him, and thinking himself surrounded by enemies, he threw himself among his suite, attempting to kill those nearest to him. His reason was quite gone; the war was of course not continued, and the king returned to Paris, his uncle, the Duke of Burgundy taking the regency. Some time after when the king's reason seemed to be returning, another accident destroyed it. At a masked ball, given in honour of the marriage of one of the queen's ladies, the king and five gentlemen appeared in dresses covered with

hemp and flax, which was fastened on with pitch. The Duke of Orleans wishing to examine their faces, approached torch in hand; their dresses became ignited by the torch, and the presence of mind of the Duchess of Berri alone saved the king's life, but the shock to his mind had been terrible, and from that time till his death he had but very lucid intervals. And now began a struggle for power between the Dukes of Orleans and of Burgundy. In 1403 the old Duke of Burgundy died, and was succeeded in the regency by his son John. The Duke of Berri succeeded in reconciling the two princes, who took the Holy Sacrament together. The next day, however, 23rd. November, 1407, as Louis of Orleans was supping with the queen (rue Babette), he was told the king desired his presence. He went out immediately, but was hardly in the street when he was attacked by a band of armed men and killed. The Duke of Burgundy had caused the assassination; he boldly boasted of his crime, came to Paris, and governed as absolute master.

In 1410 the young Duke of Orleans, joined by the Dukes of Berri, of Bourbon, and of Bretagne, declared war upon the Duke of Burgundy. All France was now divided into two factions, that of the Duke of Orleans, who called themselves Armagnacs after his father-in-law and whose sign was a band of white linen worn upon the shoulder; and that of the Burgundians who wore a blue cap with a white St. Andrew's cross and a fleur-de-lys. The animosity of the two parties was greatly augmented by the conduct of the queen Isabeau of Bavaria, who betrayed each in turn. The crimes committed in Paris by the Burgundians excited the indignation of the citizens, who revolted and fell into the power of the Armagnacs. In the year 1415 war broke out with

England, and added to the misery of the country. Henry V. of England demanded the hand of Catherine of France, and the restoration of all the provinces ceded to France by the Treaty of Brétigny. This being refused, he entered France and gained the battle of Agincourt, in which the French lost about 10,000 men, among whom were the Dukes of Orleans and of Bourbon. The Duke of Burgundy now tried to obtain possession of Paris, but was repulsed. He tried a second time, and being successful, caused the Duke of Armagnac and 2000 of his partisans to be put to death. Henry V. in the meantime marched into and took possession of Normandy 1417. The Armagnacs and Burgundians alarmed at this new danger, for a moment forgot their quarrels, and joined their forces in order to repulse the English king. But a fresh crime rendered their permanent reconciliation impossible. The dauphin Charles, now chief of the Armagnacs, invited the Duke of Burgundy to a personal conference on the bridge of Montereau-sur-yonne, but as he was entering the royal tent he was assassinated by Louvet and Du Chastel 1419. His son Philip vowed to avenge his father's death, and the queen joined his party. In 1420 the infamous Treaty of Troyes was signed, which took the succession entirely from the dauphin, giving the crown to Henry of England at the death of Charles VI., and consenting to his marriage with Catherine of France. In 1421 Henry returned to England with his wife, leaving the Duke of Clarence as his lieutenant; the duke was however soon afterwards killed by some soldiers in the dauphin's service. Upon the death of Charles VI., preceded by that of Henry V., the dauphin was recognised king by a few faithful subjects at Poitiers, but the infant son of Henry V. and of Catherine was proclaimed King of France

by the title of Henry VI., under the protection of his uncle the Duke of Bedford. Charles VI. married Isabeau of Bavaria : he left one son, Charles VII.

## CHARLES VII., THE VICTORIOUS.

1422—1461.

THE generals of Charles VII. were defeated by the English in the year 1424. The activity of the Duke of Bedford constantly stirred up fresh enemies to France, and in 1428 Orleans (which was also besieged by the English) was the only town of importance remaining to Charles ; this town must also have surrendered had not the French received unexpected help in the person of Joan of Arc. This young girl, a servant at an inn at Domrémy, followed the king to Chinon, obtained an interview, and told him she had received a mission from God to deliver her country from the English, and to crown the king at Rheims, but that she must first deliver Orleans, then besieged by the Duke of Suffolk. Convinced by her earnestness, Charles gave her an escort to Orleans, which was defended by three of the king's bravest generals. Her appearance excited the French soldiers to fresh efforts, while it discouraged the English, who all believed in her sacred mission, and the Earl of Suffolk was obliged to raise the siege 1429.

Joan then accompanied the king to Rheims, where he was crowned by the Archbishop, July 7th, 1429. At the conclusion of the ceremony she threw herself at the king's feet, asking permission to return home to her parents, now that her mission was accomplished ; but Charles constrained her to remain with his army, and as a reward for what she had done ennobled her family and descendants, giving them the

name of Des Lys. But Joan no longer fought with the same ardour and confidence, and was at last taken prisoner by the English at the siege of Compiègne ; she is said to have been burnt to death at Rouen, by order of the Duke of Bedford, May 30th, 1431. The English army was now everywhere defeated, and, being abandoned by the Duke of Burgundy, Bedford's ruin was complete. The Duke of Burgundy also was reconciled to Charles VII., who gave to him the counties of Auxerre and Macon, and the towns of Peronne and Mont Didier. The French then rose en masse against the English ; in 1436 Paris opened its gates to the king's Constable, Richemond, the people crying, " Peace ! Peace ! Long live Charles VII. and the Duke of Burgundy." The Constable replied, " My good people, the king thanks you for rendering him again master of the first city in his kingdom."

In 1439 Charles VII. assembled his parliament, and made some new and severe laws with regard to the organisation of his army. These laws gave offence to several nobles, who joined by the dauphin Louis, revolted, but Charles soon reduced them to submission.

In 1451 Calais only remained to the English ; Lord Talbot, and his son, Lord Lisle, were killed at the battle of Castillon, 1453, while attempting the recovery of Guienne.

The last years of the life of Charles VII. were greatly troubled by the misconduct of his eldest son, whom he also suspected of wishing to poison him ; this idea at last took such hold of his mind that he refused to take food and died 1461.

This king levied a perpetual tax for the maintenance of a standing army ; established the election of bishops, and re-

duced the power of the parliament, which had become greater than that of the king.

A merchant, Jacques Cœur, had acquired such enormous riches by commerce that he was able to lend the king a sum of 20,000 crowns, and to maintain four armies in 1448. By his wife, Marie of Anjou, Charles VII. had two sons: Louis XI., king, and Charles, Duke of Berri.

## LOUIS XI.

1461—1483.

ON the day of the coronation of Louis XI., the Duke of Burgundy threw himself at the king's feet in the middle of the ceremony, praying him: "In honour of the death and passion of our Saviour Jesus Christ, to forgive all those whom he suspected of having sown discord between himself and his late father." Louis promised pardon, except to seven persons, but he soon forgot his promise, and surrounded himself with the companions of his revolts.

Louis abolished the Pragmatic sanction, which he considered too favourable to the nobles; by this ordinance each church elected its bishop, each monastery its abbot.

The conduct of Louis XI. excited the indignation of the nobles, and they formed a league known as the League of the Public Good, at the head of which were the Dukes of Burgundy, of Bretagne, of Nemours, and the king's brother, the Duke of Berri.

In 1465 was fought the battle of Monthlery, the issue of which is doubtful. The Duke of Charolois had also joined the confederates, but the policy of Louis separated the allies, and the treaty of Conflans was signed, by which the king promised to Charolois, son to the Duke of Burgundy, the

towns on the Somme, and to his brother Normandy, instead of Berri. But in 1466 he assembled his parliament, and made it declare that Normandy could not be separated from the crown; his brother was driven out of it, and forced to take refuge with Charalois, whom the death of his father now made Duke of Burgundy, 1467, but he is more commonly known as Charles the Bold. Before commencing a war, Louis was desirous of a personal interview with his antagonist, the Duke of Burgundy, and accordingly it was agreed a meeting should take place at Peronne, a town belonging to the Burgundians. While, however, the conference was progressing, the Duke of Burgundy learned that at the instigation of Louis, the inhabitants of Liege had revolted. Enraged at this treacherous dealing on the king's part, the duke immediately shut him up in the Tower of Peronne, nor would he liberate him till he had promised to accompany him against Liege, and to help to quell the disturbances he had himself raised.

In 1469 Louis gave the Duchy of Guienne to his brother, but he did not enjoy possession of it for long; he died in 1472, and the king was accused of having poisoned him; he certainly rejoiced at his death, and he was one day heard to pray to Our Lady of Clery: "Oh, my good lady, my little mistress, my great friend, I pray thee to implore God for me that he may pardon me the death of my brother, whom I caused to be poisoned. I confess my crime to thee, but then what could I do? He did nothing but trouble my kingdom." Charles Duke of Burgundy, in order to avenge his friend's death, carried war into Picardy. It lasted for some years with varying success, and peace was then signed at Senlis. Louis XI. then marched against John II., of Aragon, and

took Roussillon and Cerdagne from him. In 1473 Louis caused the arrest of the Duke of Alencon, guilty of having coined false money, of having joined the League of the Public Good, and of having wished to give up his duchy to the Duke of Burgundy. He was condemned to death; Louis, however, granted him his life, but kept him a prisoner till his death.

Edward IV., of England, in order to assist his ally the Duke of Burgundy, entered France with a large army. Louis dreading the consequences of another war with England, gave Edward a considerable bribe, and induced him to withdraw his troops from France, 1475. Peace was also made between Louis and the Duke of Burgundy, the duke giving up the Count of St. Pol, a turbulent nobleman, who in the last war had deceived both in turn; he was beheaded Aug. 19th, 1476.

Charles the Bold dispossessed the young Duke of Lorraine of his dominions; he next attacked the Swiss, but was defeated by them at the battles of Granson and Morat, and at last was killed in an engagement near Nancy, 1477. His body was found in a morass the day following the battle, the water of which had frozen so hard during the night that he could only be extricated from it by pick-axes; he left but one daughter, Mary. In default of male heirs, Burgundy returned to the crown; Louis immediately took possession of it, as well as of some towns in Picardy, which he had given up by the Treaty of Confians. He encountered great resistance in Artois, Franche Comté, and in Flanders. Pressed by the troops of Louis, and surrounded by difficulties with which she was too inexperienced to contend, Mary married Maximilian, son of the Emperor Frederick

III., a marriage which caused a long rivalry between the houses of France and Austria. Maximilian was victor at the battle of Guingatta, but the war still continued. In 1482 Mary died from a fall from her horse, leaving two children, Philip and Margaret. The Flemings now rose against Maximilian, and concluded the Treaty of Arras with Louis, by which Artois and Franche Comté were to be given to France, and Margaret to marry the Dauphin Charles.

Attacks of apoplexy warning the king of his approaching death, he sent for the holy hermit Francois de Paule, from Calabria, and besought him on his knees to save him from death ; the hermit represented to him how impossible it was for him to prolong life, and tried to turn his thoughts to God. Louis died in 1483, in his castle of Plessis-les-Tours, which resembled a prison, it was so guarded and surrounded with fortifications, ditches, &c. His doctor was Jacques Coctier; Oliver Daim was his barber; Tristan l'Hermite his hangman and his associate. Louis XI. had caused his son Charles to be brought up in the castle at Amboise, forbidding him to receive any instruction, and saying: "It is enough for him to know this maxim : he who does not understand dissimulation does not understand how to reign."

Louis XI. married first Margaret of Scotland; secondly, Charlotte of Savoy.

His children were: Charles VIII., king; Anne, married Pierre de Bourbon, lord of Beaujeu, and was made regent; Joan of France, married Louis of Orleans, afterwards Louis XII.

Louis protected commerce, and established markets at Lyons, Bayonne, and Caen. He allowed priests and nobles to trade, provided they used French vessels. In 1461 he

established the royal posts. He is the first French king who bore the titles of Most Christian, and of Majesty.

The dominions of the crown were increased by the addition of a portion of Burgundy, of the county of Boulogne, which he purchased, and of Anjou, Maine, and Provence, together with the unfortunate pretensions of the house of Anjou to the kingdom of Naples. The art of printing was introduced into France during this reign.

### CHARLES VIII., L'AFFABLE.

1483—1498.

ANNE of Beaujeu, sister to the king, was declared regent. Louis, Duke of Orleans, jealous of her power, called an assembly of the States-General at Tours; the States, to the disappointment of the duke, confirmed Anne in her regency. Louis of Orleans then revolted, but was defeated at the battle of St. Aubin, 1488, and taken prisoner; he was closely confined in the castle of Bourges. Charles VIII. now married Anne of Bretagne, heiress of this duchy, who by her marriage contract pledged herself, if the king died without children, to marry his successor, or a prince of royal blood, so that Bretagne should not pass from the crown; Margaret, daughter of Maximilian and Mary, was sent back to her father.

When Charles attained his majority, he determined to press his rights (through the Earl of Maine's bequest to his father) to the kingdom of Italy. In order to overcome the opposition of Spain, Charles gave to Ferdinand the Catholic, Roussillon and Cerdagne, and to Austria, Artois and Franche Comté. Charles defeated the troops of the king of Naples on the frontiers of Milan, and gained the battles of Capoua, and in 1495 he entered Naples. But this rapid conquest was as

rapidly lost. On his return into France he was attacked by the allied troops of Italy, of Austria, of Spain, and of England; he gained the battle of Fornova, but the army which he had left in possession of Naples was defeated by Gonsalvo de Cordova, and forced to capitulate.

Charles VIII. died in 1498 when he was preparing to return again to Italy; he was in his 29th year. He left no son.

## FIFTH RACE : VALOIS-ORLEANS.

1491—1515, UNDER ONE KING.

### LOUIS XII., LE PERE DU PEUPLE.

1498—1515.

LOUIS XII. was son of Charles of Orleans, who was made prisoner at Agincourt, and grandson of Louis of Orleans, assassinated, and of Valentina, Viscountess of Milan.

Upon his accession to the throne he pardoned all those who had taken part against him in the preceding reign, and said to La Trimouille, who had taken him prisoner at the battle of St. Aubin: "The king of France does not avenge the injuries of the Duke of Orleans."

Louis XII. now divorced Joan of France, whom he had been forced to marry by Louis XI., a virtuous princess, but deformed and of austere manners. He then married Anne of Bretagne, widow of Charles VIII. Louis next determined to enforce his claims to the Duchy of Milan, which he inherited from Valentina, Viscountess of Milan, and to re-conquer the kingdom of Naples. In 1499 his troops entered Milan, and in twenty-one days the duchy was conquered. Ludovic Sforza had fled on the approach of the French. The justice and goodness of the king gained him the hearts of his new subjects, but the imperious character of the governor caused a revolt, and Ludovic re-entered his capital; by a second invasion he again loses his duchy and is delivered into the hands of the French by a traitor, for a sum of 200 crowns. He was shut up for the remainder of

his life in the Castle of Loches. The cardinal d'Amboise was made Governor of Milan, and proved himself well fitted for the position. By the treaty of Grenada, 1500, Louis XII. and Ferdinand the Catholic, of Aragon, form an alliance in order to conquer Naples. In the event of their success the kingdom was to be shared by them. The King of Naples abandoned his kingdom and gave himself up to Louis, who gave him a pension and the Duchy of Anjou. A dispute then arose between Louis and Ferdinand as to the division of the territory, and war ensued, the French army was utterly defeated, and Naples fell into the hands of the Spaniards. By the treaty of Blois, 1505, Louis gave up all pretensions to Naples in favour of his niece, Germana de Foix, who married Ferdinand of Aragon, whose first wife, Isabella of Castile, had died in 1504. The same treaty affianced Claudia of France, daughter of the king, to Charles V., son of Philip and grandson of Maximilian, and of Mary of Burgundy on the father's side, and grandson of Ferdinand of Aragon and of Isabella on the mother's side; the dower of the princess was to be the duchies of Milan, of Bretagne, and of Burgundy. But the states of Tours declared that the king could not separate these provinces from the crown, and begged him to renounce the Austrian alliance, and to give the hand of the Princess Claudia to his nephew Francis d'Angoulême, heir apparent to the throne. By the league of Cambray, 1508, the Emperor Maximilian, the Pope Julius II., the Kings of France and of Spain ally themselves against Venice, whose possessions were continually increasing, to the detriment of her neighbours. Louis XII. marched in person against the Venetians and gained the battle of Aignadel; he then returned to

France. But the Venetians had now recourse to intrigue, and destroyed the alliance, and Louis to his astonishment found that his ancient allies were united against him under the Protection of the Pope ; Henry VIII., of England, having also joined them, and laid claim to Guienne. Gaston de Foix, nephew to the king, now aged 22 years, marched against the enemies, defeated the Swiss and the Spaniards, and laid siege to Ravenna. He gained the battle and lost his life, and Louis XII., learning the sad news, cried, “ God save us from gaining such victories ! ” From this time the French troops were constantly defeated. The Swiss gained Navarre, 1513, and entered France. While they marched towards Dijon, Henry VIII. and Maximilian gained the battle of Guinegatte, or of the Spurs, so named because the French are said to have used their spurs only. Humiliated by all these defeats, Louis XII. got rid of his enemies by most disadvantageous treaties. His wife, Anne of Bretagne, dying, he married in 1514 Mary of England, sister to Henry VIII.

Louis XII. died in 1515 in the arms of Francis of Angoulême, his cousin and heir. He said to him : “ I am dying ; I recommend our subjects to you.” When his courtiers laughed at his economy, he would say : “ I would rather my courtiers laugh at my avarice, than my people weep at my extravagance.” He would often repeat : “ A good shepherd cannot take too much care of his flock.” His reign remained a long time engraved in the memory of his subject, and the days of the “ good king Louis” were often regretted.

Louis XII. married first Joan of France, secondly, Anne of Bretagne, thirdly, Mary of England. He had issue two daughters : Madame Claudia, wife of Francis I., and Madame Renée, married the Duke of Ferrara.

## SIXTH RACE : VALOIS-ANGOULEME.

1515—1589, DURING 74 YEARS, UNDER FIVE KINGS.

### FRANCIS I.

1515—1547.

FRANCIS OF ANGOULEME was the grandson of John, the second son of Louis of Orleans and of Valentina of Milan.

He continued the preparations for war commenced by Louis XII. ; the league between the Emperor, the Swiss and Ferdinand was renewed against France. Francis crossed the Alps and met the Swiss at Marignano, the engagement was called the battle of the Giants. Francis showed the greatest valour, and was knighted by Bayard, who said to him : “Sire, autant vaille que si c’etait Roland ou Olivier, Godefroi ou Baudoinson père, Dieu veuille qu ’en guerre ne prenez fuite.” Then addressing his sword, he swore to draw it in no other service than that of the king.

Master of Milan, Francis was dersirous of peace : Maximilian Sforza capitulated in the castle of Milan, and renounced all his rights, except a pension of 30,000 crowns ; he retired to France, where he died 1530.

Francis concluded peace with the Swiss Cantons in 1516, and negociated with the Pope, whom he re-instated in all his temporal rights.

In 1516 peace was concluded with Charles of Austria

(Charles V.), successor to his grandfather, Ferdinand of Spain, who had lately died. Francis also paid a sum of 600,000 crowns to Henry VIII. for the town of Tournay, taken by the English after the battle of Guinegatte. The death of Maximilian, 1519, renewed the war. The Kings of France and of Spain disputed the imperial crown, and tried to strengthen their cause by allies. Each hoped to secure the alliance of England. Francis obtained an interview near Ardres, 1520, but Charles V., more crafty, went to England, and by dint of flattering the king and his minister Wolsey, almost obtained the promises he wanted. The meeting of Francis and Henry has been called "the field of the cloth of gold," from the wealth and magnificence there displayed.

Francis then invaded Navarre, which Ferdinand the Catholic had taken from the house of Albret, but it was soon again lost.

In Italy the war was unfortunate : Lautrec was defeated in 1522. He had been forced to fight by 1600 Swiss, who without pay for several months, cried : "Money, dismissal, or battle!" Lautrec then returned to France, where he was coldly received by the king, and accused of having wilfully lost Milan ; he exculpated himself by saying he had received no supplies for paying the troops, and it was proved by Semblancal, the director of the finance, that the queen-mother, Louisa of Savoy, had applied the money to her own use. However, Semblancal, in order to screen the queen-mother, was tried, judged and sentenced to be hanged at Montflaucon.

Charles of Bourbon, constable of France, and prince of the royal blood, had inherited through his wife Susan, daughter of Anne the Beaujeu, the duchy of Bourbon, Clermont and La Marche. Left a widower in 1621, he wished to

marry Renée, daughter of Louis XII., sister to the queen, but the Duchess of Angoulême, Louisa of Savoy, caused herself to be offered to him. The constable refused her, and the queen-mother disputed his rich heritage. Seeing his property sequestered, Bourbon entered into a conspiracy against France, and promised to Charles V. to attack Burgundy as soon as Francis should have crossed the Alps. However, the allies attacked France, and Picardy was saved by Trimouille. Bonivet, a favourite general of the king's, was sent at the head of the army to Italy, but he was defeated, and being severely wounded, gave the command to Chevalier Bayard. But to the great grief of France he was also wounded and mortally in the retreat from Biagrasso. Feeling himself dying, he caused himself to be placed leaning against the branch of a tree ; having no priest near, he confessed to his steward, holding the hilt of his sword before him in place of a crucifix. The Duke of Bourbon passing near, expressed his pity and sorrow : "Weep for yourself, Sir," said Bayard, "Weep for yourself ; as for me I die a man of honour, doing my duty ; but I pity you, who are fighting against your king, your country, and your oaths of fidelity."

The Imperialists then invaded Marseilles, where they expected to meet with no resistance. "Three canon shots," said Bourbon to Pescara, the Spanish general, "will bring the citizens to our feet, the keys in their hands, and ropes round their necks." The town, however, was vigorously defended, the women also distinguishing themselves.

Francis then passed into Italy, but was defeated at the battle of Pavia, 1525. Wounded in the forehead, he refused to give up his sword to the traitor Pomperau, a follower of Bourbon. Lannoy, Viceroy of Naples, received it on bended

knee. It was then that Francis wrote to his mother, "Madame, tout est perdu fors l'honneur." Louisa received kindly the remainder of the French army from Italy, paid the ransom of the prisoners, and levied a fresh army; she detached Henry VIII. from the alliance with the emperor, and at last obtained a truce from Charles V., which was to be employed in negotiations for the liberty of the king of France. The sister of Francis I., Madame Margaret, joined him at Madrid.

In 1526 the treaty of Madrid was concluded, by which Francis was allowed to return to France upon condition that he renounced his rights to Italy, gave Burgundy to the Emperor, reinstated Bourbon and his partisans in their rights, and paid 500,000 crowns to England. His two eldest sons were given as hostages to the Spaniards. Hardly, however, had Francis returned to his kingdom than he protested against this treaty, and the states of Burgundy then assembled, declared that Burgundy was a French province, and that the king would not give it to a foreigner. He then formed a league with the Pope, the English, the Swiss, and the Venetians, to drive the Imperialists from Italy. But very little success attended their efforts. Bourbon marched upon Rome, but was mortally wounded; his death was avenged by a dreadful pillage; during two months the town was a prey to the excesses of the soldiery. In 1532 Francis united Bretagne to the crown. The war continued with alternate success for both sides, and ended in 1544 by the treaty of Créspy, when honourable conditions of peace were made.

Francis I. died in 1547; although he had been extravagant during a large part of his reign, he left 400,000 crowns in the treasury.

Francis ordered baptismal registers to be kept in all the churches. He protected arts and sciences, and has been called "Le Père des Lettres."

Francis left one son, Henry II., who succeeded him.

## THE REFORMATION.

IN 1517 took place a religious reformation in Europe. Leo X. on ascending the Papal chair found his treasury empty, and in order to replenish it published a bull of indulgences, which the Dominican Friars were charged to sell. Martin Luther, an Augustinian Friar, seeing the mischief caused by the sale of these indulgences, published ninety-five theses condemning the sale of them as contrary to Scripture. He was born at Eisleben, 10th November, 1483; from an early age he was remarkable for his learning, eloquence, and courage. On All Saints day, 1517, he fastened his theses to the church door at Wittemberg. This action was related to the Pope, who said: "Luther is a man of genius, and all this disputing is but a monk's quarrel." In 1520 a bull of the Pope's condemned as heretical 41 of the theses of Luther, and demanded that he should be given up to him, and that he should retract all he had written against the Church of Rome; but Luther burned the bull in the presence of a vast concourse of people at Wittemberg. In 1521 Luther appeared before the Diet held at Worms by Charles V. His friends tried to dissuade him from attending, but he said: "If they should light a fire that would reach to Heaven between Wittemberg and Worms, I am summoned to appear by the emperor, and I would appear!" He again said: "If there were as many devils at Worms as there are tiles on the roofs, I would enter it." The

Elector of Saxony, fearing he would fall into the hands of his enemies, provided a safe retreat for him in the Castle of Warbourg ; it is there he translated the Bible into German. In 1529 at the Diet of Spires the friends of Luther took the name of "Protestants," because they protested against the decisions of the emperor.

In 1530 at the Diet of Ausbourg, the Protestants presented to the emperor their confession of faith.

In 1535 France underwent a thorough religious reform. John Calvin, born at Noyon, in Picardy, 1509, first preached his opinions at Paris, 1532 ; persecuted in his own country he fled to Geneva, which he entirely reformed, but he persecuted those who differed from him, and caused a Spaniard, named Michael Servitus, to be burned alive.

England also had her Reformation ; Henry VIII., wishing to divorce his wife Catherine of Aragon, and not being able to obtain the consent of the Pope, constituted himself defender of the faith, and persecuted both Protestants and Catholics.

Francis I., who encouraged the reformation in Germany, persecuted those in its favour in France. Louisa of Savoy caused the first Protestant to be burned alive. In 1525 Madame Margaret, sister to the king, adopted the new opinions, and after her marriage with Henry d'Albret, King of Navarre, this kingdom became the refuge of the Reformers.

Martin Luther died in 1546, at the time the Council of Trent was condemning his doctrines.

## HENRY II.

1547—1559.

HENRY II., son of Francis I., continued the war against Charles V., and allied himself with the Protestant Princes of

Germany. In 1552 he conquered the towns of Metz, Toul, and Verdun. Francis, Duke of Guise, distinguished himself at the siege of Metz, and Charles V. was obliged to retire after seeing two-thirds of his fine army destroyed.

In 1554 he lost the battles of Reutz ; in 1555 the emperor abdicated, leaving Spain, Flanders and the Indies to his son Philip II., and the imperial crown to his brother Ferdinand. He himself retired to the monastery of St. Justus, in Spain, where he died in 1558.

The war continued between Henry II. and Philip II., who was much helped by his wife, Mary of England. The army, composed of English and Spaniards, besieged St. Quentin. The Constable Montmorenc advanced against the enemy with inferior forces, but he was vanquished and taken prisoner ; but Philip did not take advantage of this success, and wasted time in prosecuting unimportant sieges. Henry II. levied another army, of which he gave the command to Francis of Guise, who took Calais, the only place the English possessed in France ; he then laid siege to Thionville.

In 1559 the treaty of Câteau Cambresis was concluded, by which Henry II. renounced his rights to Italy, but kept Metz, Toul, and Verdun ; Calais was to be given back to the English in eight years, or the king was to pay 500,000,000 crowns, unless England violated the conditions of peace. Philip II., whose wife, Mary Tudor, was dead, was to marry Elizabeth, Henry's daughter, and Margaret, the king's sister, was to marry the Duke of Savoy. It was at the fête given in honour of these marriages that Henry II., tilting against Montgomery, a captain of the Scottish guard, was mortally wounded ; he died eleven days after, aged 41 years.

In 1551 Henry II., excited thereto by the Cardinal of

Guise, published the edict of Chatéaubriand against the Reformers; the following year they traversed Paris in procession, chanting Psalms; the king ordered information to be obtained respecting the tumult, and arrests to be made. The counsellor Anne de Dubourg took the part of the Protestants: he was arrested, and his trial commenced. At the news of this the ministers and the deputies of the Protestants assembled in the faubourg St. Germain, where they held their first synod, and decided to ask the intercession of the Princes of Germany, in favour of the prisoners; this measure angered the king, who ordered the Reformers to be treated more rigorously. Henry II. married Catherine de Medicis; his children were Francis II., Charles IX., Henry III., the Duke of Alencon; Isabella or Elizabeth married Philip II., Claude married the Duke of Lorraine, and Margaret married Henry IV.

## FRANCIS II.

1559—1560.

FRANCIS II. was sixteen years old when he succeeded his father, he was weak in body and in mind; the Guises, aided by the young and beautiful Queen Mary Stuart, took the reins of government in their own hands. The trial of Anne de Dubourg, commenced by Henry II., was concluded; he was condemned to death and executed. This act irritated the Protestants, who formed a league against the court. The Admiral Coligny was at the head of this faction; he was joined by the Prince of Condé, and a plot was made to overthrow the Guises, and to seize the person of the king while staying at Amboise. The Guises discovered the conspiracy; the principal people concerned were arrested, and either hanged or drowned. The

Prince of Condé was also arrested, but set at liberty for want of sufficient proof of his being concerned in the plot. He was arrested a second time, condemned as a rebel, and about to be executed when the death of the king saved him.

Francis II. died from an abscess in the ear. His widow, Mary Stuart, left France with regret and returned to Scotland.

## CHARLES IX.

1560—1574.

CHARLES was only 10 years old when he ascended the throne; his mother, Catherine de Medicis, was made regent. In order to conciliate all parties she took into favour the King of Navarre, head of the House of Bourbon, set at liberty the Prince of Condé, consulted Coligny, and yet retained the Guises at court.

The States-General assembled at Orleans in 1561, and at Pontoise the same year; at the latter place they demanded religious toleration, and also that the property of the clergy should be used to pay the debts of the State.

In 1561 Théodore de Béze, a friend of Calvin, and the Count of Lorraine, made a last effort to reconcile the Roman Catholics and the Protestants or Huguenots; they drew up a confession of faith hoping it would be approved by both parties, but it was condemned as heretical and insufficient by the Sarbonne. In January, 1562, an edict was passed, allowing the Protestants to assemble for their services, out of the towns, and suppressing the fines, etc., of the old edicts. But soon after, as the Duke of Guise was travelling through Vassy, a quarrel took place between his servants and some Protestants assembled in a barn for worship. The Duke was wounded in

the tumult, upon which his followers attacked the Huguenots, and killed 60 of them. Upon the advice of Coligny, Condé then took possession of Orleans, and in order to obtain the help of the English gave up to them the town of Hâvre. The King of Navarre, Anthony of Bourbon, went to besiege Rouen, which was defended by Montmorenci; Anthony was wounded, and died one month after, leaving one son, Henry IV., aged nine years, and an infant daughter. Condé then went towards Hâvre in order to join the English, but he fell in with the French army at Dreux; and here took place the first regular battle between the Catholics and Protestants; the Protestants were defeated, and Condé was taken prisoner. Montmorenci, the commander of the Catholics, was also taken prisoner.

The Duke of Guise then marched towards Orleans. He was here killed by an assassin named Poltrot; before expiring, he said to Poltrot: "If thy religion orders thee to kill me, mine orders me to pardon thee; judge which is best." He was, however, put to death with great cruelty.

The Court now endeavoured to make peace; it was concluded at Amboise, and lasted four years.

In 1567 the battle of St. Denis, which only lasted for two hours, was gained by the Catholics, they, however, lost the Constable Montmorenci, who fell covered with wounds.

The peace of Lonjumeau was concluded under favourable conditions to the Protestants, in 1568, but it was soon violated.

At the battle of Jarnac, 1569, the young Henry, Duke of Anjou, commanded the Catholic army, and defeated the Protestants. After the engagement Condé was assassinated by Moutesquiou. The Queen of Navarre, in order to inflame

the courage of the Protestants, brought to them her son Henry of Bearn, aged 15 years, and the young Prince of Condé, aged 16 years, and said to them, “ My friends, here are two new chiefs, whom God gives you, and two orphans I confide to you.” Their first engagement was at Roche-Abeille, where they were victorious ; but the Duke of Anjou then gained the battle of Montcontour, which was followed by the peace of St. Germain, 1570.

Catherine de Medecis now proposed to marry her daughter Margaret to Henry of Bearn ; Jane d'Albert, dazzled by this offer, came to court, but was soon poisoned, by scented gloves sold her by a creature of Catherine. However, the marriage of Henry of Bearn caused an immense number of Calvanists to assemble at Paris, and Catherine seized this moment to strike them a great blow. On the 24th August, 1572, the day of St. Bartholomew, took place the massacre of the Protestants, the signal being the ringing of the tocsin, or great bell of the palace. Coligny was murdered, and his body dragged about the streets by the mob. The King of Navarre and the Prince of Condé saved themselves by professing the Roman Catholic faith. Charles IX. is said to have himself fired from the windows of the Louvre upon the flying Hugenots, saying, “ Tue, tue, tirons ; mon Dieu ils s'enfuient ! ” The massacre also took place in the provinces. From this time however the health of Charles IX. failed, and he died in agonies of remorse, 1574. By his wife Elizabeth of Austria he left a daughter only, who died at the age of six years.

### HENRY III.

1574—1589.

HENRY III., Duke of Anjou and King of Poland, succeeded

his brother, Charles IX. Upon receiving the news of his brother's death, he left Poland in the night, fearing that his people would not let him leave them.

France was now divided into three factions—the Protestants, who had at their head Henry of Navarre, and the Prince of Condé, who had both denied their professions of faith upon the death of Charles IX.; the Catholics, whose chief was Henry of Guise, son of Francis of Guise, killed at Orleans, and who was surnamed "the scarred," or "the Balafré," on account of a wound received in an engagement against the Huguenots; and the Political Party, having at their head the Duke of Alencon, brother to the king.

The peace of Beaulieu, by which the king accorded great privileges to the Protestants, excited the anger of the Duke of Guise, who formed an association known as the Holy League, having for pretext religion, but for their end the expulsion of the Valois.

The death of the Duke of Alencon, made Henry of Navarre presumptive heir to the throne, and was the cause of the treaty of Joinville, by which the Duke of Guise made Philip II. of Spain Protector of the League, and by which it was determined that no Protestant Prince could occupy the throne of France. Philip agreed to pay 50,000 crowns per month to the League, and to help it with troops until Calvinism was exterminated. Henry III. thought to destroy this association by joining the League, and he signed the treaty of Nemours, which gave them eight places of security, and forbade upon pain of death, the exercise of any religion but the Roman Catholic. This treaty was, however, the signal for war, which has been called the war of the three Henrys (Valois, Bourbon, and Guise.) The King of Navarre gained the battle

of Coutras, 1587. Another League, called the League of the Sixteen, because its chiefs were distributed in the sixteen quarters of Paris, was now formed by the Duke of Guise. They organised a revolt against the king, and placed barricades as far as the Louvre. Guise, although forbidden to do so, entered Paris amidst cries of "Vive Guise!" Henry III. left the Louvre on foot, got a horse at the Tuilleries, and left Paris, vowing not to re-enter it except sword in hand.

Guise changed the magistrates, took possession of the Bastille, and wished to assemble the Parliament, but the President Harley would not allow this, and said that the king's majesty having been violated, the ministers and magistrates had no longer any authority. Henry III. assembled the States-General at Blois, and there caused the Duke of Guise, and his brother the Cardinal, to be assassinated. The king himself went to look at the dead body of the duke, kicked it over, and said: "My God, how large he is! he seems larger dead than alive!" Catherine de Medicis on hearing of his death said; "Dieu veuille que vous ne soyez devenu roi de néant; vous avez taillé, mais il faut coudre." The Sarbonne declared the French absolved from their oaths of allegiance to Henry III., the whole country was in alarm and confusion. Under these circumstances the king effected a reconciliation with Henry of Navarre; the interview took place in the gardens of the Plessis-les-Tours. From this time the army increased in strength, and Henry III., intending to besiege Paris, encamped at St. Cloud. It was then he said, looking at the town: "Paris tête trop grosse pour le corps tu as besoin d'une bonne saignée pour te guérir." The 1st August, 1589, James Clement, a monk, obtained admittance to the king under pretext of presenting a despatch to

him, but he almost immediately stabbed him in the body with a knife. He expired in a few hours in the arms of Henry of Navarre, whom he named his successor. His queen was Louisa of Lorraine.

Henry III. was weak-minded and vicious; he was very vain, would paint his face, dye his hair, and used to sleep in gloves in order to make his hands white.

In this reign the calendar of Gregory XIII. was adopted in France. An edict had been published in 1564, fixing the commencement of the year on the 1st January, instead of on Easter Day, has had been the custom.

## SEVENTH RACE: BOURBONS.

1589—1890, UNDER EIGHT KINGS.

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### HENRY IV.

1589—1610.

HENRY IV. was the son of Anthony of Bourbon and Jane d'Albret, and was descended from St. Louis by his sixth son Robert of Clermont, who had married Beatrice, heiress of Bourbon. The religion of the king caused the greater part of Henry III.'s army to leave him, and thus finding it impossible to take Paris, he retired into Normandy, where he gained the battle of Arques, over Mayenne, brother of Guise, who had boasted to the Parisians that he would deliver the king to them bound in irons. Philip of Spain, who was suspected of wanting the crown of France for his daughter, sent a body of Spaniards to reinforce the army of Mayenne. Henry IV., upon hearing this, said, "The more enemies the more glory." The battle of Ivry took place in 1590; before the combat Henry encouraged his soldiers, and said to them, "If you can see no cornets, rally round my white plume, you will always see it on the way to honour and duty." After the battle he cried, "Comrades, save the French." The Cardinal of Bourbon, Charles X., named king by the Leaguers, died at this time, and Henry of Bourbon was declared incapable of succeeding to the throne. Henry, however, after taking Melun, proceeded to besiege Paris. The

citizens, whose hatred of the Huguenots was strong, defended Paris bravely, but famine broke out; the king allowed his officers to send provisions to the besieged, saying, "I would rather not have Paris than possess it by the death of so many people." Alexander Farnese, Duke of Parma, came to their relief, and forced Henry to retreat; the next year he besieged Rouen, but was defeated by Alexander, who died soon after at Arras, 1592.

Henry IV., wishing to heal disturbances and to obtain the affection of his subjects, now caused himself to be instructed in the Catholic religion, and in 1593 publicly abjured Protestantism in the Cathedral of St. Denis, saying: "Paris is well worth mass." He was crowned at Chartres the following year (Rheims was in the hands of the Leaguers), and entered Paris in 1594. The mayor presented the keys to him, and Brissac said to him: "One must render to Cæsar that which belongs to Cæsar." "Yes," replied the mayor, "render, but not sell." The Spaniards soon quitted Paris, Henry saying to them: "Go, and remember me to your master, but do not return."

The Pope, Clement VIII., being pressed to send absolution to the king, consented to do so, for too much delay would have ruined France.

Henry defeated Mayenne at Fontaine-Française, 1595; by the treaty of Folembray, which was concluded the same year, he pardoned the Leaguers, and gave governments to the princes. After the signing of the Treaty, he received Mayenne in the gardens of Mousseau. He made him walk very rapidly in the paths of the park; Mayenne, who was very stout, could hardly follow him, and was at last obliged to own he could go no further; Henry, laughingly said: "Shake hands,

my cousin, this is all the harm you will ever receive from me."

France was now in a state of tranquility; peace reigned in all the provinces except in that of Brittany, whose governor, Mercœur, alone resisted: he wanted to profit by passing events, to enforce the rights of his wife, heiress to Penthièvre, in order to make an independent sovereignty of his own. At last, however, he signed the Peace of Angers, and gave his daughter in marriage to the Duke of Vendôme, son of Henry IV. and of Gabrielle d'Estrées.

By the edict of Nantes, published in 1598, Henry accorded to the Protestants the free exercise of their religion, the enjoyments of the rights of citizens, admission to all employments, a chamber in each Parliament, and the enjoyment of their estates.

In 1598 the king concluded peace with Philip of Spain, who died the same year; and the Spaniards at last quitted France. The following year Henry demanded a divorce from his wife Margaret of Valois, daughter of Henry II. and of Catherine de Medicis.

Charles de Biron, a Marshal of France, who had fought for the king, thinking his services badly rewarded, made himself chief of the discontented parties, and was drawn into revolt by Emanuel of Savoy; Philip II. entered into this conspiracy, and was promised the sovereignty of all the provinces, which the princes should divide among themselves. Henry, however, was informed of this, and Biron taken prisoner; he denied everything, but the evidence of his guilt was too strong to admit of a doubt, and he was condemned to be beheaded. When informed of his sentence, he said, "My father endured death to put the crown upon his head,

I have received thirty-five wounds to keep it there, and for a reward he takes my head off my shoulders." In 1600 the king had given a promise of marriage to Henrietta d'Entragues, Marquise de Verneuil. Sully, having read this paper, tore it up, and Henry cried out, "Sully, are you a fool?" "I wish I was the only one upon earth," replied the minister, and he dissuaded the king from the marriage. Henrietta, however, could not forgive the destroyer of her hopes; she conspired against him, with her father and some of the nobles, but Henry pardoned them.

At this time the king thought of making a Christian Republic, so as to ensure a perpetual peace; in order to do this it was necessary to put down the house of Austria. He began his preparations, and had the Queen, Marie de Medicis, crowned and named regent: but on the 14th May, 1610, he was assassinated, by Francis Ravaillac (rue de la Ferronnière), while on his way to the arsenal to see Sully. His life had been attempted several times: once he was even wounded, by a man named Jacques Châtel, at the instigation it is supposed of the Jesuits, who were then banished from France; they were however allowed to return in 1603.

Henry IV. married first Margaret of Valois, whom he divorced; and secondly, Marie de Medicis. His children were Louis XIII., king; Gaston d'Orleans, chief of the 2nd House of Orleans; Elizabeth, who married the Prince of the Asturias; Henrietta, who married Charles I. of England, and Christine, married the Duke of Savoy.

When Henry was crowned the national debt amounted to 900 millions; aided by Sully, he greatly lessened the amount; he laughed at luxuries of all kinds, and set an example of economy and simple living. Industry increased; Lyons

produced silks, and stuffs of gold and silver ; mulberry trees were cultivated, and manufactories of china, tapestry, and glass established. The canal of Briare, joining the Loire to the Seine was made, the colonies of Canada and Guiana established in America ; the Louvre embellished, and the Pont Neuf, began by Catherine de Medicis, finished. Henry built the palace of St. Germain-en-Laye, improved Fontainebleau, and founded the hospital of St. Louis. He frequently said to his courtiers, “ My friends, I shall die one of these days, and when you have me no longer you will know my value, and the difference between me and another man.” He was very brave, and his memory is still greatly revered by the French ; he took great pains to improve the condition of the poor, and ruled the country well. In this he was greatly assisted by his minister Sully, who, however, remained firm in his profession of the Protestant faith. Henry’s reign was a glorious one ; he raised France from the misery and desolation into which the civil wars had plunged it, to a state of high prosperity and happiness.

Théodore d’Ambignée and de Thou lived during this reign. The last, a celebrated historian, who died in 1617, published a History of the Affairs of Europe, from the latter part of the reign of Francis I., to the conclusion of the reign of Henry the Great.

## LOUIS XIII.

1610—1643.

Louis XIII. being only nine years old at the time of his accession, his mother, Marie de Medicis, was made regent, and governed for him while he was brought up in the Louvre. Miss Freer, in her “ History of the married life of Anne of

Austria," says: "The young king was of a reserved and suspicious temper, sensitive to the slightest ridicule or neglect, having a memory retentive of petty affronts. His household was not selected with a view to correct the nervous shyness and overbearing pride of his character. Such noble names as Rohan, Guise, Montmorency, Bouillon, and La Rochefoucault were never heard amongst the playmates of Louis XIII. His chief companions were the three brothers De Luynes, sons of a gentleman of Provence. Louis nevertheless showed aptitude for many boyish pastimes ; he played well at tennis ; showed keen relish for the pleasures of the chase, which unfortunately, he was only allowed to indulge by hunting rabbits in the garden of the Tuileries. He passionately loved music, and learned to play on the spinet and guitar. He also amused himself by turning ivory, by drawing and colouring little pictures, and by snaring singing birds."

Marie de Medicis abandoned the project of humbling the House of Austria, which had been the great aim of Henry IV. Sully retired from court, and the whole confidence of the queen was given to two Italians, Concini and his wife, whose only object was to enrich themselves ; in this they succeeded, for their wealth was enormous, and their jewels are said to have been more numerous and beautiful than those of the queen herself. Concini purchased the marquisate of Ancre for 130,000 pounds ; the nobles murmured greatly at the favour shown to these parvenus, and when the treasury of Henry IV. was found to be exhausted, they revolted against the queen mother. The Prince of Condé, the Dukes of Vendôme, of Bouillon, and of Luxembourg left Paris. Marie becoming alarmed, negotiated with them at St. Mené-

hould, and promised to assemble the States-General. This assembly, however, did very little good; the members decided that the king was of an age to reign alone, passed days in wearisome discourses, and separated. The discontented nobles rose a second time, and plotted to obtain the person of the king, who was going to Bordeaux to celebrate his marriage with the Infanta of Spain, Anne of Austria. The plot failed, and peace was concluded by the Treaty of Loudun, 1616. Condé upon his return to Paris, was seized and made prisoner by Concini at Vincennes. Albert de Luynes, the favourite of Louis, took advantage of the influence he possessed over the king, to propose the death of Concini. Louis gave a half assent, by saying he might be imprisoned, and that arms were only to be used in case of great resistance. Vitry, a captain of the Guards, was chosen to commit this crime. He, with several archers, arrested and killed the Marquis upon the drawbridge of the Louvre; his body was thrown upon a heap of straw and afterwards dragged through the streets of Paris. Vitry was thanked personally by Louis, and excused the deed by saying that the resistance of Concini had been so great that it was impossible to arrest him. His immense possessions and jewels were given by the king to De Luynes. The son of the Marquis was afterwards allowed an annual sum of 16,000 livres. The wife of Concini was soon afterwards tried and condemned to death as a witch. Marie de Medicis was exiled to Blois, but she escaped and joined the rebels. The Bishop of Lucon, however, made peace between them. This bishop had great influence over the queen mother, who obtained for him the cardinal's hat; as the Cardinal de Richelieu he took an important part in all state affairs, but his friendship with his mistress did not last

Albert de Luynes had obtained in marriage the hand of Madelle. de Montbazon, of the family of the Rohans. At the time of his greatest prosperity, the king became jealous of his power, and also, it was said, of his attentions to Anne of Austria. Nevertheless, he conferred upon him the title of Constable, and sent him against the Protestants, who, upon some deviations from the privileges granted them by the edict of Nantes, had revolted. De Luynes advanced to take Montauban, but was obliged to raise the siege. Fever raged in his army; he himself was attacked and died in the course of a few hours 21st December, 1621. It was said of him that he died at the right moment, for the awakening might have been dangerous. Peace was then made at Montpellier, all the advantages of the edict of Nantes being granted to the Protestants. Richelieu entered the council 1624. He arranged the marriage of the king's sister, Henrietta, with Charles I. of England; the Duke of Buckingham, the favourite of the English king, was sent to escort the princess to England. Louis XIII. lived unhappily with Anne of Austria, and the breach between them was widened by the imprudent conduct of Buckingham, who wore the queen's portrait, toasted her in England, and declared himself in love with her. Gaston d'Orleans, the brother of Louis, and the favourite son of Marie de Medicis, also frequently sought the society of Anne, to the anger of her husband. Gaston was in every way a contrast to his brother, witty, handsome, elegant in his attire, and a great favourite of the courtiers. A marriage had been arranged to take place between him and Madelle. de Montpensier, who was small and plain, and disliked by Gaston. Louis, however, was determined the marriage should take place, and many quarrels ensued between the brothers in consequence.

Richelieu, now in full power, proposed to himself three objects: to reduce the power of the nobility, to weaken the Protestants, and to humiliate the House of Austria. The nobles were becoming very independent, and had formed a party against the court, in which they were joined by Gaston d'Orleans. A conspiracy was also made to kill Richelieu by the Count of Vendome, the Count of Chalais, Madame de Chevreuse (widow of de Luynes, and married to the Duke de Chevreuse), and the prince. The plot was however discovered through the imprudence of the Count de Chalais, who confided it to one of his friends; but Richelieu acted with great moderation, none of the conspirators were put to death at the time, but the following year he condemned to death for slight offences the Count de Chappelles and the Duke de Bouteville. La Rochelle, the only remaining stronghold of the Protestants in France, was now besieged by the advice of Richelieu. The King of England sent a fleet to its aid, under the command of the Duke of Buckingham, but he was repulsed and obliged to return home. The inhabitants were still encouraged by Charles I. to hold out, and Buckingham was upon the point of sailing again, when he was assassinated by Felton, 24th August, 1628. The Earl of Lindsay then took the command of the fleet, but was also forced to retreat, and La Rochelle surrendered. Famine had been doing its work in the city: 5,000 inhabitants only were left; they were allowed to retain their possessions and to follow their religion, but their privileges were abolished and their fortifications razed to the ground.

In 1629 the Duke of Savoy and the Spaniards, encouraged by the Emperor Ferdinand, violated the treaty of Suza, which assured the succession to the Duchy of Mantua to the son

of the Duke of Nivers. Louis XIII., marched in person against them, and established the duke in his rights 1631. The king was here taken seriously ill and transported to Lyons, where a plot was formed against the cardinal, who by this time had completely lost the friendship of the queen mother: she refused to see him, or to assist at any council at which he was present. The king having recovered, returned to Paris. Here Richelieu found enemies on every side; he sought an interview with the king at the Luxembourg, and was refused, but by means of a private staircase he entered unannounced the room in which Louis and Marie de Medicis were at the moment disputing about the cardinal. A violent scene ensued, and the king left the room. Marie thought she had triumphed; but the next day, which is known as the “journée des Dupes,” Louis left for Versailles, followed by Richelieu, who obtained an interview and re-installed himself in the king’s favour. Queen Marie was holding court at the Luxembourg when this news arrived, together with an order from Louis for the arrest of the Lord-Keeper Marillac, who was tried and condemned to death on a charge of rapine and extortion. This sentence was, in spite of the exertions and prayers of the queen mother, carried out. Marie de Medicis, who continued her intrigues against the cardinal, was banished to Compiègne, whence she escaped to Belgium six months afterwards. She did not return to France, and after several years spent in exile, died in want and misery at Cologne, 3rd July, 1642.

Gaston d’Orleans retired to the protection of the Duke of Lorraine, and excited the Duchy to rise against his brother; Louis, however, unexpectedly besieged Nancy in the middle of the winter; the duke surprised, and without defence, pro-

mised to receive the king's troops in his fortresses, and Gaston joined Marie de Medicis in Brussels, where he continued to excite the discontented nobles to rebellion. Montmorency, governor of Languedoc, foolishly joined the prince ; a battle was fought at Castelnaudry, and Montmorency was wounded and taken prisoner. Gaston retired to Beziers, where he asked pardon of his brother, and signed a treaty by which he promised to remain upon friendly terms with all the ministers, and with Richelieu in particular.

Montmorency was tried at Toulouse and condemned to death. Louis refused to pardon him, although the Queen, Gaston d'Orleans, the Prince of Condé, and even the Pope, asked his life. He was beheaded 30th October, 1632.

Richelieu now began to prepare for weakening the House of Austria. At this time the war, known as "The Thirty Years War," was raging between the Protestant Princes and the Emperor Ferdinand. Richelieu armed the King of Sweden in defence of the Protestants, and continued to send money to the Swedes after the death of the king, who was killed at the battle of Lutzen, 1632. "After the battle the body of the king, Gustavus Adolphus the Great, was found under a heap of dead, on the roadside between Lutzen and Leipsic. It lay near a large stone, which, in commemoration, is called the Schwedenstein (Swede stone), and which still indicates the spot where the great vindicator of the religious liberties of Germany terminated his career. The king's buff coat was carried to Vienna, where it is still kept; but the body was conveyed to Weissenfels. The Swede stone is simply inscribed, "G. A., 1633 :" around it are four seats, and in sorrowing beauty overhangs a willow."

It is related that a knight, wearing a green scarf, was

always seen near Gustavus, on the field of Lutzen, even to the moment of his mortal wound, as though to point him out to the aim of the Imperialists, and that immediately after his fall this same personage appeared near the Duke of Friedland (Wallenstein), informing him that his royal foe no longer existed.

The joy that the Duke experienced on learning the death of Gustavus was not that which a common mind would have felt for the loss of so remarkable a rival. "Heaven has ordered it," said he, "Germany was not vast enough to contain us both."—Timbs.

The present favourite of Louis XIII. was a young man named Cinq-Mars, whose family was devoted to Richelieu, and who had been presented to Louis by the cardinal; when in full power, however, he turned against his benefactor, and took every opportunity of angering the king, making him feel how entirely he and his kingdom were governed by Richelieu; at last he formed a plan, in which he was joined by Bouillon and de Thou, to overthrow and kill the Cardinal. They also, after much persuasion, obtained a promise of support from Olivarez, the minister of the king of Spain, upon certain conditions. All was ready, when by some means a copy of the treaty with the Spanish minister fell into the hands of Richelieu. He at once acquainted the king with what was going on, and obtained permission to seize and do as he would with the conspirators. De Thou denied everything, and threw himself upon the mercy of the king, who, however, declined to interfere in any way. When both were condemned to death, de Thou said to Cinq-Mars, "Monsieur, I have some reason to complain of you: you are the cause of my death; but God knows how much I love

you. Let us die, Monsieur, with courage, and gain Paradise." Both died the same day, 12th Sept., 1642. The executioner beheaded Cinq-Mars with one stroke, but he was less fortunate with de Thou, probably unnerved by the death of the first, he was obliged to strike several times in order to finish his dreadful task. Bouillon saved himself by confessing the part he had taken in the conspiracy, and by giving up his principality of Sédan to the king. After the death of Cinq-Mars, the conduct of Louis towards the cardinal was very cool. Richelieu's health declined rapidly, and he died 4th December, 1642, aged 58 years. The king, who did not seem much affected by the illness of his minister, visited him a few hours before his death. He was buried with very little pomp, at the church of the Sorbonne. By his will he left to the king the Palais Cardinal (Palais Royal), his golden altar vessels, his largest diamond, and 1,500,000 livres in ready money.

Louis XIII. did not long survive the cardinal. Before his death he caused the queen to be named regent, but, as if to show his distrust of her to the last, he arranged that her power should be restrained by a council, formed by Condé and Mazarin (protégé of Richelieu). The Duke of Orleans was made lieutenant of the kingdom, as a proof that the king pardoned all his former offences. Louis XIII. died 14th May, 1643. By his queen, Anne of Austria, he had two children. Louis XIV., king, and Philip of Orleans, chief of the third House of Orleans. The Royal Academy was founded in this reign.

## LOUIS XIV.

1643—1715.

### PART I.

LOUIS XIV. was only five years old when he ascended the throne. Anne of Austria, supported by the Duke de Vendôme, his son (the Duc de Beaufort), and the Duke of Orleans, easily broke the will of Louis XIII., and took the power into her own hands. During four years her reign prospered. The war with Austria was continued, and five days after the death of Louis XIII., the Duc d'Enghien, a youth of twenty-one years of age, won the battle of Rocroi over the Spanish infantry. In 1644 he gained another victory over the Imperialist general Mercy, at Fribourg. Mercy, however, defeated Turenne, in May, 1645, and d'Enghien was ordered to the Rhine to repair this defeat; Gassion and Turenne commanded under his orders. Mercy had fortified himself near Nordlingen, in Bavaria, aided by the famous John der Werth. The conflict was long and desperate, and d'Enghien despaired of victory, but Mercy was slain and the enemy forced to retreat. Condé took Dunkirk, but failed at the siege Lérida. He repaired his defeat by gaining the battle of Lens, 1648. Before the engagement he cried out to his troops, "Friends, remember Rocroi, Fribourg, and Nordlingen."

The treaty of Westphalia ended the Thirty Years war in Germany; it secured to France the possession of Alsace, Metz, Toul, and Verdun. "The War of the Thirty Years was the last struggle sustained for the cause of the reformed religion, which, for a hundred years, had served as a pretext for all the trouble that had overwhelmed Europe, from the

revolt of the peasants of Swabia, under Charles V., to the peace of Westphalia. It is usually divided into four periods: 1st, the Palatinate, from the defenestration of Prague to the ruin of the Elector Frederick; 2nd, the Danish period, from the attempts made to penetrate into Germany by Christiern IV., of Denmark, to the embarkation of Gustavus Adolphus; 3rdly, that prince's exploits up to the fatal battle of Lutzen; 4th, the French period, from the French armies by Cardinal Richelieu appearing on the borders of the Rhine to the conclusion of peace of Munster."—Timbs.

Mazarin, the successor of Richelieu, was greatly disliked by the people. He was to the nation an object of disdain on account of his avarice, of ridicule on account of his language, half Italian, half French; and of hatred because he was a foreigner. His subaltern, d'Emery, loaded the people with taxes; he used to say, "Superintendents are only made to do evil: good faith is useful to merchants only." He proposed to raise a fine upon all houses built in the suburbs, but the parliament forbade the fiscal officers to enforce the tax; it was consequently withdrawn, and a loan of eighteen millions was to be forced upon the notables of Paris instead; the parliament registered this decree, but would not force its execution. Emery next proposed a tax upon all articles of consumption entering Paris, but was obliged to abandon this plan of filling the treasury also. Mazarin then "recurred to the old ruinous plan of creating new offices, and selling them. This he thought the scheme most acceptable to parliament; but they were now acquainted with their strength, and with the timid character of the minister, who felt obliged to make use of the dignity of the king's presence. A bed of justice was accordingly

held in February, 1648. The parliament registered in silence, but on the following day declared its assent to have been forced and the registry invalid. The queen was enraged at this audacious act. . . . . In July the Parliament produced its plan of reformation. This recommended, in the first place, the removal of the intendants whom Richelieu had appointed, the diminution of the "taille," the illegality of a taxes not consented to by the sovereign courts of law, and, finally, a kind of "habeas corpus," by which every prisoner was to be interrogated within twenty-four hours after his arrest, and brought before his natural judges. No marvel that the court, in the words of de Retz, "felt itself touched in the apple of the eye," by these bold demands, which constituted not less than a free constitution. It cost Anne of Austria fresh tears and new bursts of rage. The blood of Charles V. and Philip II. might well burn within her. Not in a position to deny, the minister determined to evade. In a bed of justice the young king was made to grant some immaterial demands, but the principal articles were found to want the expression which gave them force. The presence of royalty did not now keep down the murmurs, and the boyhood of Louis XIV., unfortunately saw his dignity insulted, and his authority denied. Bred up in these quarrels, his young ears drank in the continued complaints and imprecations of his mother against the parliament, and the circumstances increased that strong bias to despotism which was but natural to his station."—Crewe.

The Queen and Mazarin, however, did not intend to yield, and at the noise of the cannon which announced the victory of Lens, the court arrested three of the principal magistrates:

Charton, who escaped, Blancmenil, and Broussel. At the alarm given by the servant of the latter, the populace rose and passed the night in erecting barricades. One cry alone was heard: "Broussel and liberty." Anne of Austria, upon being told of the alarming state of the city, said: "It is rebellion itself to imagine the people can rebel, you would have me deliver Broussel; I will first strangle him with these hands." She was forced, however, to give up both Blancmenil and Broussel.

At this time began also the disturbances called the "Fronde," so named, according to some authors, from the verb "fronder," to censure; and, according to others, from a game played by children in the ditches of Paris, and who attacked each other with the "fronde" or sling used to fling stones. The enemies of the cardinal were called "frondeurs;" they wore as a sign of their party a little stone attached to the hat, and afterwards they carried a bouquet of straw. The partizans of the court were called "Mazarins," and wore a bouquet of paper. The principal frondeurs were the Prince of Conti, brother of Condé, the Dukes of Bouillon, Beaufort, (surname le roi des halles), La Rochefoucauld, Longueville, Vendôme, Nemours, and Gondy, afterwards Cardinal de Retz, who had at first tried to make peace between the two parties, but, failing, had then joined the Fronde. This war, celebrated for great names and little effects, continued for some time, and the queen, alarmed, retired with her children, Mazarin, Condé and the Duke of Orleans, to St. Germaine-en-Laye. She implored Condé to help her; he did not like the cardinal, "but," said he, "I am a Bourbon, and I do not want to embroil the state." In August, 1649, he signed a peace with the dis-

contents at Reuil, and the royal family returned to Paris. De Retz abandoned the Fronde for a time, and as a reward received the rank of Cardinal ; Condé finding his services slighted, revolted, and was confined by Mazarin, first at Vincennes, and afterwards at Hâvre, together with his brother the Prince of Conti, and the Duke of Longueville. The people, however, were so irritated against Mazarin that he was obliged to leave France. He retired first to Belgium, and later to Cologne ; before his departure he released the three princes he had confined at Hâvre. Condé now returned to Paris and became all-powerful. The Queen allied with him, and granted that the marriage between the Prince of Conti and Mademoiselle de Chevreuse should be broken off. This caused a quarrel between Condé and the party of the Fronde. The prince found every party deserting him ; Anne of Austria, who had only affected friendship for him, and was in reality most anxious for the return of Mazarin, threw off the mask : he found himself without support or friend, and went to Guienne, where he again revolted. Louis XIV. was declared of age in September, 1651 ; his mother still retained the royal authority, and determined to recall her favourite Mazarin, who accordingly joined the court at Poitiers, and took his place as head of the council, to the great anger of the parliament. Marshal Turenne was put at the head of the royal troops, and defeated Condé, who retired into Spain. Gaston of Orleans was exiled to Blois for the part he had taken in this revolt. From this time the war of the Fronde ceased to be dangerous ; indeed, it has always been regarded by Voltaire, and some others, as a pastime. Peace was concluded between France and Spain in 1659, by the treaty of the Pyrennees, by which it was

arranged that Louis should marry the Infanta of Spain, Maria Theresa, that the possession of Perpignan, Roussillon, Arras, and Artois, should be assured to France, and that Condé should be restored to his rank and possessions, and be allowed to return to France.

## LOUIS XIV.

FROM THE TREATY OF THE PYRENNES, 1659, TO THE TREATY  
OF AIX-LA-CHAPELLE, 1668.

### PART 2.

THE Duke of Orleans died 2nd of February, 1660; as he left no sons his duchy reverted to the crown, and was bestowed by Louis XIV. on his brother Philip. The marriage of the king took place the same year. It was celebrated with great magnificence in the Isle of Pheasants. The infanta upon becoming queen of France renounced all right of succession to the crown of Spain, and Louis was required to join in this renunciation.

Cardinal Mazarin died the following year. He had been successful in private as well as in public fortune. “The pecuniary wealth, the valuables, the pictures of Mazarin, were immense. He was fond of hoarding—a passion that seized him when he first found himself banished and destitute. His love of pictures was as strong as his love of power, stronger, since it survived. A fatal malady had seized on the cardinal whilst engaged in the conferences of the treaty, and worn by mental fatigue, he brought it home with him to the Louvre. He consulted Guenaud, the great physician, who told him that he had two months to live. Some days after receiving this dread mandate, Brienne perceived the cardinal in night-cap and dressing-gown,

tottering along his gallery, pointing to his pictures, and exclaiming : ‘ Must I quit all these ? ’ He saw Brienne, and seized him : ‘ Look,’ exclaimed he, ‘ look at that Correggio ! this Venus of Titian ! that incomparable Deluge of Caracci ! Ah ! my friend, I must quit all these, farewell, dear pictures, that I loved so dearly, and that cost me so much ! ’ His friend surprised him slumbering in his chair another time, and murmuring : ‘ Guenaud has said it ! Guenaud has said it ! ’ A few days before his death, he caused himself to be dressed, shaved, rouged, and painted, ‘ so that he never looked so fresh and vermillion ’ in his life. In this state he was carried in his chair to the promenade, when the envious courtiers cruelly rallied and paid him ironical compliments on his appearance. Cards were the amusements of his deathbed, his hand being held by others : and they were only interrupted by the visit of the papal Nuncio, who came to give the cardinal that plenary indulgence to which the prelates of the sacred college are officially entitled. Mazarin expired on the 9th of March, 1661.”—Crowe.

The king upon the death of his minister announced his intentions of governing alone, and until the end of his life he retained all authority in his own hands, and frequently worked during eight hours a day. His first act was the disgrace of Fouquet, the superintendent of finance, who was a prodigal and licentious character. He was condemned to perpetual confinement in the Bastille and Pignerol ; he merited his fall, but he was honest as a treasurer, and his character was redeemed by many traits of generosity. Louis did not fill the vacant office of superintendent, but made Colbert, a man of humble origin and of great abilities, comptroller-general of the finances.

In 1662, the palace of Versailles was built ; it had before been merely a rendezvous for hunting. A quarrel took place at this time at Rome, between the people of the Duke of Créqui, ambassador at Rome, and some Corsicans of the Pope's guard ; the populace fired upon the duke's carriage, and wounded some of his servants. Louis immediately took possession of Avignon, and threatened to carry war into Italy. The Pope, however, offered every satisfaction in his power, and caused a column to be raised in memory of the event. In 1665 Philip IV. of Spain died, leaving one son, Charles II., as his successor. Although by the treaty of the Pyrennees Louis had renounced all claim to the possessions of his father-in-law, he now claimed Flanders, Brabant, and Franche-Comté. Seeing that the Emperor of Austria did not interfere, Louis marched into Flanders, 1667, and took possession of it, as also of Lille, Tournay, Mons, and Charleroi, almost without shedding blood. The following year the Prince of Condé entered Franche-Comté ; the whole province submitted to the French in the course of three weeks. England, Holland, and Sweden, alarmed by these rapid conquests, interfered ; and Louis, fearing for his navy, made peace. By the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, he restored Franche-Comté, but retained the principal part of his Flemish conquests.

Some months after the death of Cardinal Mazarin, an unknown prisoner was sent secretly to the castle of the island of St. Margaret, in the Mediterranean. During the journey he is said to have worn a mask of iron, an order having been given that he should be put to death if he disclosed his features. He was removed to the Bastille, in Paris, in 1690. He died there in 1708, and was buried in the night. Various

surmises have arisen respecting the name of this prisoner. It has been asserted that he was the son of Anne of Austria, and twin brother of Louis XIV. He was at one time supposed to be Fouquet, the disgraced minister of finances, and at another he was said to be the Duke of Beaufort. "Amidst these various notions, the following existed, but until 1825 obtained little credit, that "the Man in the Iron Mask" was Count Ercolo Antonio Matthioli, a senator of Mantua, a private agent of Ferdinand Charles, Duke of Mantua, and that he suffered this long and strange imprisonment for having deceived and disappointed Louis XIV., in a secret treaty for the purchase of the fortress of Casale, the key of Italy; the agents of Spain and Austria having offered him a higher bribe. Yet their infamous scheme could not have been brought to light without exposing the shame of all the principals concerned.

The truth of this latter statement was proved without any reasonable doubt, in 1826, by the publication of "The true History of the State Prisoner, commonly called the Iron Mask, extracted from documents in the French Royal Archives, by the Hon. George Agar Ellis." In this work it is established that, immediately after Louis perceived that he had been duped, Matthioli was arrested by the king's order. Though armed, he offered no resistance, but was carried that night to Pignerol; the leader of the party alone knowing the prisoner, whom, for better concealment, he named L'Estang. During his confinement at Pignerol, his mind began to wander, and he was placed in the same room with an insane Jacobin monk. In 1681 the count and his companion were removed in a litter, and under military escort, to Exiles, a few leagues from Pignerol. Here the monk died,

and in 1687, St. Mars, the custodian who had removed with his charge to the Isle of St. Marguerite, reported of one prisoner only, whom we are warranted in concluding was Matthioli, the man in the iron mask. During his removal hither he is thought to have been first compelled to wear a mask, to hide his features, “not, as has been erroneously stated, a mask of iron,” which could not have been borne upon the face for any long continuance of time, but one of black velvet, strengthened with whalebone, and fastened behind the head with a padlock, and further secured by a seal, which did not prevent the prisoner from eating and drinking, or impede his respiration. At St. Marguerite he passed eleven years, and was described by Voltaire as richly dressed, supplied with laces from Paris, served at table with silver plate, wearing a mask of iron, and plucking out the hairs of his beard with steel pincers—all which were gross exaggerations. In 1698 St. Mars removed with his prisoner to the Bastille ; Matthioli travelled in a litter, and when St. Mars halted near his own estate of Pulteau, the unknown was seen in a black mask, a circumstance talked of in the neighbourhood until our time. The peasants observed that his teeth and lips were seen, that he was tall, and had grey hair. His imprisonment extended to twenty-four and a half years, according to the horrible order, issued by Louis, “that he should have nothing which could make life agreeable.” He died in November, 1703, being then sixty-three years of age, although the register of his burial states him as “Marchiali, aged about 45 years.” But persons who died in the Bastille were frequently interred under false names and ages ; and Louis and the Duke of Mantua were still alive. On the decease of the prisoner, his keeper scraped and whitewashed

his prison walls ; the doors and window-frames were burnt, and all the metal vessels, whether of copper, pewter, or silver, which had been used in his service, were melted down. When the records of the Bastille were made public, in 1789, the register was searched in vain for anything that would throw light on this affair ; the leaf of the register which contained it had been carefully removed. Such is the true story of the Iron Mask."—Timbs' Curiosities of History.

## LOUIS XIV.

FROM THE TREATY OF AIX-LA-CHAPELLE, 1668, TO THE TREATY  
OF NUNEGUEN, 1678.

### PART 3.

LOUIS, who could not pardon the interference of Holland in his projects on the Spanish dominions, entered the Dutch provinces in 1672 ; in this war he was aided by England. The Prince of Orange encouraged the people, and saved Amsterdam by inundating it, which he did by opening the sluices of the canals. Louvois, the minister of war, made great preparations, and in order to terrify the Germans, caused the towns and villages of the Palatinate to be burnt to ashes. Turenne chased the Imperialists from Alsace, in 1675. He was killed when upon the point of attacking Montecuculli ; he was greatly beloved by the king and by the troops, and his death was a source of sorrow to everyone, except Louvois. Turenne, who had been converted to the Catholic religion by Bossuet, was buried at St. Denis. At his death the Marquis of St. Hilaire said to his son who wept because the shot which had killed Turenne had taken off his father's arm : "Do not weep for me, my son, but for this great man." Condé after having conquered Alsace re-

tired to Chantilly ; he died in 1685. The Duke of Orleans, the brother of Louis XIV., defeated the Prince of Orange near St. Omer. In January, 1678, Louis conquered Ghent. The Dutch were now willing to listen to the overtures of peace made to them by the French King. The treaty of Nimeguen was signed in 1678, by which Louis gave up Ghent, Oudenard, Charleroi, and Luxemberg. Spain consented to give Franche-Comté, Cambrai, Valenciennes, St. Omer, and Ypres, to the French. The Emperor Leopold obtained Philipsbourg, but Louis kept possession of Fribourg, which opened Germany to him ; it was after this treaty that he was surnamed "the Great." The Prince of Orange, who was dissatisfied with the conditions upon which peace had been made, attacked the French army near Mons a few days after the treaty had been signed. During the engagement 4,000 men were killed. The prince excused himself by saying he did not know that the treaty had been signed, but it is supposed he hoped by this act to prolong the war. In 1679, peace was signed between France and the empire. "Here may be seen," says Voltaire, "how little events correspond to projects." Holland, against which the war was undertaken, and which had nearly perished, lost nothing, nay, even gained a barrier; whilst the other powers, that had armed to defend and guarantee her independence, all lost something.

## LOUIS XIV.

FROM THE TREATY OF NIMEGUEN, 1678, TO THE TREATY OF  
RYSWICK, 1697.

### PART 4.

LOUIS XIV., excited by Louvois, who was afraid of losing during peace the power he had gained, began again to prepare

for war. In 1688 the French king invaded the empire and ravaged the Palatinate a second time. During this time William of Orange arrived in England, where he caused himself to be proclaimed king, in lieu of his father-in-law, James II., who sought safety in France. Louis XIV. separated his forces, and sent some regiments into Ireland, but they were defeated at the battles of the Boyne, 1690, and of Kilconnel, 1691.

In 1685, Louis, by the advice of Madame de Maintenon, imprudently revoked the edict of Nantes, granted to the Protestants by Henry IV. Protestant pastors, if taken, were put to death; men who helped or protected them were sent to the galleys, and women shaved or confined: 500 livres reward was offered for each pastor. "Twenty of the religionists," says de Noailles, "were put to death at this time. The fugitives who assembled on the mountains were pursued. A premium was offered to each parish that would give up twelve, and three or four pistoles to each soldier that brought in one. "Battues" were made through the country by the troops just in the manner of chasing wild beasts." This act of persecution on the part of Louis, deprived him of 800,000 subjects, who carried their riches and their industry to England, Holland, and Germany.

Louis XIV. was never much attached to his queen, Maria Theresa, but he always treated her with kindness, and at her death exclaimed, "This is the first sorrow she has caused me!" The wrong remedies, applied by her doctor Fagon, to an abscess formed under her arm, were the immediate cause of her death. She was ignorant, but good and pious, and devoted to her husband. In 1685 the king privately married Madame Scarron, the widow of the comic French poet, and

conferred upon her the title of De Maintenon. She was born in a prison at Mort, and brought up a Protestant; she used to say to those who tried to convert her: "I will believe all you wish, if you will not force me to believe my good aunt, Madame de la Vallette, is damned." She was governess to the Duke of Maine, son of Mde. de Montespan, at the time of her marriage to the king. Louis founded St. Cyr by her wish, where poor but noble young girls were brought up and educated.

The conduct of Louis against the Protestants aroused the indignation of the English, Germans, and Dutch, and a league was formed against him by the three countries; Spain and the Emperor also joined it. Louis, however, anticipated his enemies and sent the dauphin to lay siege to Philippsbourg, in 1688; it was taken, but the Duke of Lorraine succeeded in driving the French beyond the Rhine, and took Bonn and Mayence. The king then sent Luxembourg (who had been deprived of his command through the jealousy of Louvois), at the head of an army to Flanders, and Catinat was sent to Italy. Luxembourg gained the battle of Fleurus, near Namur, in 1690; Catinat was also victorious and defeated the Duke of Savoy at Saluces. The king himself went to the siege of Mons, which surrendered in a few days. Namur was besieged and taken in 1692. Catinat invaded Piedmont and gained the victories of Staffarde in 1690, and of Marseilles in 1693. The bad effects of such continental warfare now began to be felt, commerce was destroyed, and money exhausted. In order to better the bad state of finances, Louis caused letters of noblesse to be sold, and a re-coining was made, which increased the nominal value of money at the rate of two sous for every livre, and which brought

40,000,000 to the treasury ; a capitation tax was established in 1695, in a graduated scale of twenty-two classes. A famine broke out caused by the severe winter, and Louis also lost successively Luxembourg, Colbert, and Louvois ; this last was succeeded by his son Barbesieux, who, however, proved himself unfit for the office. All these causes made Louis desirous of concluding peace, and the treaty of Ryswick was signed in September, 1697. Louis recognised William III. as king of England, and gave up Mons, Charleroi, Courtray, and Luxembourg, to Spain ; Lorraine was restored to its duke, who, however, was forbidden to fortify his towns. But that part of the treaty which concerned the emperor was not concluded for upwards of a year. France, in the treaty of Ryswick, appears to be the purchaser of peace : she yields. But the war, though not so brilliant as preceding ones, had still attained its object : Louis kept the new frontier that he had chosen in Flanders, whilst the possession of Strasbourg fixed him on the Rhine. He had baffled the most powerful European league, and whatever were the internal sufferings and weakness of the country, France still preserved over surrounding nations the ascendancy that Richelieu had founded, and that Louis XIV. had proudly raised."

James II. of England remained in France until his death. He died at St. Germain, and desired that his body might be buried in the parish church without any ceremony or pomp, and with these words for his epitaph : "Here lies James the Second, King of England." "But the body was kept unburied until 1793 or 1794, in the church of the English Benedictine Monastery at Paris, where it was exhibited for money. It was not until 1824 that the corpse, or the greater portion

of it, was conveyed to St. Germain, where it was buried with great pomp in the parish church, most of the English then in Paris or the neighbourhood joining in the funeral procession. The intestines of the king were given, soon after his death, to the Irish College in Paris, where also his body lay after the destruction of the church of the Benedictines, and before its final interment at St. Germain. The brain of the king was given to the Scotch College in Paris, and the heart to the Convent at Chaillet. In the chapel of the Scotch College in Paris is a monument, with a long Latin inscription, erected in 1703 by James, Duke of Perth, to the memory of James II. An urn once stood over the monument containing the king's brains; but this was destroyed at the period of the Revolution. Near this is a slab covering the heart of his queen, and another the intestines of his daughter Louisa. A monument of white and gray marble was also erected to the king at St. Germain by order of George IV.: it bears a Latin inscription, in which James is characterised as

“Magnus in prosperis, in adversis major.”

—Communicated to the Athenæum, Nov. 30th, 1850.

### LOUIS XIV.

FROM THE TREATY OF RYSWICK, 1697, TO THE PEACE OF  
RASTADT, 1714.

#### PART 5.

FRANCE had now reached its height of splendour; the authority of the king was absolute at home, and his power feared abroad. This, however, did not last; France was again plunged into war, military reverses, and home distresses. In 1700, Charles II., King of Spain died, leaving no children,

and France and Austria disputed the succession. Louis XIV. was the son of the eldest daughter of Philip III., Anne of Austria; and Leopold was the son of Marie-Anne, the younger daughter of Philip III.; besides this the dauphin was the grandson of Philip IV., by his mother Maria Theresa. By his will, Charles II. left his dominions to the Duke of Anjou, second son of the dauphin, upon condition that he should never unite the crown of Spain to that of France. Louis XIV. accepted these conditions for his grandson, saying to him, "My son, there are no longer any Pyrennees!" The Duke of Anjou at once occupied a chamber of state; had his train borne up, assumed the golden fleece, thus taking the insignia of monarch of Spain; the court and king acknowledged him as such. In December he departed to take possession of his new kingdom."

The Emperor of Austria was very indignant at this, and a treaty of alliance was made in 1701 by nearly all the powers of Europe against France. William III. of England, died in 1702, and was succeeded by Queen Anne. Louis, however, would only recognise James III., son of James II., who died the preceding year, as king of England; this was an insult to England, and aroused the old animosity against France. The war of the succession now began. Austria opposed Prince Eugene and England the Duke of Marlborough to Louis. Eugene was the son of Maurice, Count of Soissons; in early youth he had been desirous of entering Holy Orders, but the king refused him an abbaye; he then proposed to enter the army, but a lieutenancy was denied him. Irritated by these rebuffs he left France and entered the service of the emperor, and soon rendered himself formidable to his enemies. Marlborough was at the head of affairs in England

and Holland. On the 13th August, 1704, the combined troops of Prince Eugene and Marlborough defeated the French at Hochstedt (Bavaria), on the Danube, and not far from Blenheim. The Marshals Tallard and Marsin lost a great number of their troops, besides leaving a hundred pieces of cannon and a great deal of baggage in the hands of the enemy. The news of this defeat arrived at Versailles in the midst of fêtes given in honour of the birth of the great grandson of the king. Madame de Maintenon charged herself to tell the king he was no longer invincible. The French, under the command of Marshal Villeroi, were again defeated at Ramillies, 23rd of May, 1706. Villeroi dared not write the news of this defeat to his master, but when he appeared before him Louis merely said, “*On n'est pas heureux à notre âge M. le Mareschal.*” The defeat at Turin in 1706, obliged the French to quit Italy, leaving immense booty to the Piedmontese; Marsin was slain, and the Duke of Orleans wounded. Louis now proposed peace, but the allies would not listen. The distress of the French was great; a frightful famine broke out, and the people wanted bread for many months. The winter of 1709 was one of the most rigorous ever known. Fruit trees perished, the corn already sown was destroyed, the strongest spirits froze in their bottles in the warmest rooms of the palace, money was no longer to be had, the great bankers failed, an inundation of the Loire increased the misery, and a scurvy broke out in the hospitals which resembled the plague. The king caused a great portion of the gold plate to be melted down, and the nobles followed his example. The allies would only accept peace upon condition that Louis should raze all his fortifications from Bâle to Philipsbourg, give up New-

foundland to the English, that the monarchy of Spain should pass into the hands of the Austrians, and that Philip V. should have left Spain in the course of two months. Louis refused these terms, and said : " Since I must wage war I prefer doing it to my enemies rather than to my children."

In 1710 the Duke of Vendôme gained the battle of Villa-viciosa over the Austrians, and thus revived the hopes of the French, and at the same time Marlborough was disgraced, and thus Louis no longer feared England's forces.

While political matters were thus brightening for Louis, a mass of domestic misfortunes fell upon him. The dauphin, his only son, died of small-pox, in 1711, aged 50 years, and leaving three sons, the eldest of whom, the Duke of Burgundy, died in 1712; his son became Louis XV.; a few days after the birth of this child the Duchess of Burgundy died; their eldest son died fifteen days later; all were carried off by some unknown disease. Popular belief assigned so many deaths to poison; the Duke of Orleans, nephew of Louis, was at first suspected, he scorned to justify himself, and demanded to be brought before his accusers and tried; the king paralysed with sorrow could but shrug his shoulders in answer; the duke's teacher of chemistry was, however, arrested, but there the matter ended. Posterity has acquitted Orleans of the crime, and the Duke of Maine has been suspected, but the mystery has never been cleared up.

The victory of Marshal Villars at Denain, over the English and Dutch, hastened the conclusion of peace. Treaties were signed between France, England, Portugal, Prussia, and the Duke of Savoy, at Utrecht, in April, 1713; this peace was concluded by the treaty of Rastadt, signed in the following year by Holland, the emperor, and the states of

the empire. Louis agreed to the demolition of Dunkirk, the cession of Gibraltar, Minorca, Newfoundland, Hudson's Bay, Nova Scotia, and the island of St. Christopher, to the English; Spain remained to Philip V.; and the Duke of Savoy received Sicily in addition to his own dominions. The emperor, instead of Spain, received Naples, Milan, Sardinia, and Spanish Flanders; Lille, French; Flanders and Alsace remained to Louis.

In the month of August, 1715, Louis was attacked by his last illness; his legs swelled, and mortification set in. Before his death he sent for his great grandson, who succeeded him, and said, "Do not imitate me in my taste for war. Try to keep peace with your neighbours, and help your people, which I have been so unfortunate as not to be able to do." He died 1st September, 1715, aged 77 years: he had reigned 72 years, and had seen England governed by Charles I., Cromwell, Charles II., James II., William and Mary, Anne, and George I. By his wife, Maria Theresa, he had one son, the dauphin, who died in 1711, leaving three sons: the Duke of Burgundy, the Duke of Anjou, king of Spain: and the Duke of Berri. The Duke of Burgundy had two sons, the Duke of Bretagne, who died, and Louis XV., king. "Not a little remarkable is it to observe, that from the accession of Louis XIV. to the present time, not a single king or governor of France, though none of them, with the exception of Louis XVIII., have been childless, has been succeeded at his death by his son. Louis XIV. survived his son, his grandson, and several of his great grandchildren, and was succeeded at last by one of the younger children of his grandson, the Duke of Burgundy. Louis XV. survived his son, and was succeeded by his grandson. Louis XVI. left a son

behind him, but that son perished in the filthy dungeon to which the cruelties of the terrorists had confined him. The King of Rome, to whom Napoleon fondly hoped to bequeath the boundless empire he had won, died a colonel in the Austrian service. Louis XVIII. was, as we have said, childless. The Duke de Berri fell by the hand of an assassin in the lifetime of Charles X.; and his son, the Duke de Bordeaux, is in exile from the land which his ancestors regarded as their own estate. The eldest son of Louis Philippe perished by an untimely accident, and his grandson and heir does not sit upon the throne of his grandfather. Thus, then, it appears that for upwards of two hundred years, in no one of the dynasties to which France has been subjected has the son succeeded to the throne of the father."

Louis XIV. caused a regular police to be provided, good roads and canals were made, the fine arts were encouraged, and among the learned men who lived during this reign were the divines Pascal, Fénélon, Massillon, and Bossuet, and the poets Racine, Molière, and Boileau.

"Louis XIV. was the most despotic monarch in proportion to the civilisation of his people, that ever lived. His will effected this, which proves superiority and strength of mind. Is he to be censured? Scarcely. He thought it the best, the only remedy against anarchy; and his people, though not so confidently, partook at first of the same opinion. The reign, in fact, and the despotism of Louis was an experiment, a great experiment, to try if absolute power was compatible with modern civilisation; and whether it was the natural, the durable, the just form of government. It failed, and, with our advanced experience, we might declare that it would and should fail. But it tells strongly in

favour of liberty that the experience was made; and without that full and universal knowledge of its consequences, of the whole phenomena, in short, with which history presents us, dreamers might still at this day find a Utopia in unlimited monarchy."

## LOUIS XV.

1715—1774.

LOUIS XV., son of the Duke of Burgundy, and great grandson of Louis XIV., succeeded at the age of 5 years. Philip, Duke of Orleans, was named regent by the Parliament. He was a humane man, but his disposition had been spoiled by the tutor chosen for him, the Abbé Dubois, who "was a monster of iniquity."

The wars and expenses of Louis XIV. had encumbered the kingdom with debt. A Scotchman, John Law, proposed to the regent, a plan which at first seemed likely to fill the treasury and reduce the debts. He established a royal bank, which had a capital of 6,000,000, to be paid half in money, and half in bills, thus absorbing a quantity of the paper money. This sum was, however, extended to 3,000,000,000, and when those who had notes wanted to be repaid in money, the value of the paper fell, and there was a frightful overthrow of fortunes. Law, himself ruined, was proscribed from France, and went to Venice. This company, which lasted from 1717 to 1720, was called the Mississippi Company.

Alberoni, minister of Philip V. of Spain, having formed the project of taking the regency of France from the Duke of Orleans, and bestowing it upon the king of Spain, charged Cellamare, the Spanish Ambassador at Paris, to form the

conspiracy, but it was discovered by Dubois, and war followed.

Marshal Berwick took the command of the French troops; he subdued St. Sebastian and Fontarabia. Peace was concluded in 1720, by which Sicily was abandoned to the Emperor, and Sardinia given to the Duke of Savoy. Philip V. was recognised as king of Spain by the emperor, and he joined the alliance which had been made between France, England, Holland, and Austria. Alberoni was disgraced, and retired to Italy.

Louis XV. was crowned at Rheims, 1722; a Jesuit priest was at the same time appointed his confessor. He was then betrothed to Maria Anna, infanta of Spain. She was four years old, and it was arranged that she should be brought up in France.

Cardinal Dubois was now made prime minister, but fortunately for France he did not very long enjoy his new honours; he died in 1723. Philip of Orleans then reserved for himself the duties of prime minister, but he died of apoplexy in the same year, and this office was filled by Bourbon-Condé, great grandson of the great Condé. Paris de Verney, his superintendent of finance, proposed that the property of the clergy and of the nobility should be subject to taxes. Fleury, Bishop of Fréjus, profited by the anger this proposal caused, to take the power into his own hands. Condé also committed the mistake of breaking off the marriage of Louis XV. with the infanta of Spain, in order that he might marry Maria Leczinski, daughter of Stanislaus, King of Poland, who was dethroned through the misfortunes of Charles XII. She was seven years older than the king, and was good and pious. Fleury, a prudent, gentle and

excellent man, did not take the title of Prime Minister, although he really filled that office. He succeeded in maintaining peace in Europe until 1733, at which time Augustus II, King of Poland, died. Stanislaus Leczinski recognised King of Poland in 1704, under the protection of Charles XII., had been forced to give up the throne to Augustus II. In 1723 there were two pretendants to the crown : Augustus III., son of the late king, aided by Russia and the empire, and Stanislaus Leczinski, helped by France, Spain, and Sardinia. Stanislaus, still unfortunate, and hard pressed by the Austrians, fled to Dantzick, and escaped, disguised as a sailor.

Louis XV. subdued Lorraine, whose duke, Francis Stephen, the future husband of the Archduchess, Maria Theresa, was destined to be the stem of a new house of Austria.

Marshal Berwick died at Philipsbourg, and Villars at Turin, after having subdued Milan ; this last was eighty-two years old.

The Marshals Maillebois, de Coigny, and de Broghe gained the battles of Parma, and of Guastalla, after which the war was terminated by the treaty of Vienna, 1735. By this treaty it was stipulated that Stanislaus should abdicate, receiving Lorraine and Bar as compensation ; these provinces were to revert to France at his death. Louis XV. agreed to the Pragmatic-Sanction, given by Charles VI. in 1713, and by which he arranged that in default of sons, his daughters should succeed him according to age, instead of the children of his brother, the emperor, Joseph I.

War broke out again on the death of Charles VI., 1740. Louis XV. took up arms, not in order to maintain his natural rights, but to despoil the house of Austria of part of its dominions. France supported the pretensions of Charles

Albert, elector of Bavaria, known as Charles VII. Maria Theresa, crushed by the armies of France and Russia, threw herself on the protection of Hungary, showing the people her infant son, and imploring their assistance; they swear to die for their queen, Maria Theresa. England and Austria also joined her cause, the English being commanded by George II. in person. In 1743 the French were defeated at Dettingen; they lost 5,000 men. The following year Louis was attacked with a dangerous illness, after his recovery he received the name of "Well Beloved."

At this time Fleury died; unlike his predecessors, he left no wealth. He had been very economical, and left the crown a yearly revenue of 180,000,000, the interest of the national debt took only 30 of that sum. Louis did not replace Fleury, but governed alone.

Charles VII. died in 1745, his son, Maximilian Joseph, in spite of the help offered him by France, preferred not to carry on the war; he made peace with Maria Theresa, and promised to support the cause of her husband, the grand-duke Francis.

France then turned her arms towards the Netherlands. On the 30th April, 1745, the French gained the battle of Fontenoy, at which both Louis and the dauphin were present. The English were commanded by the Duke of Cumberland. Ghent, Bruges, Ostend, and Oudenarde are then taken. Peace was concluded by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, October 7th, 1748, by which France gave back Berg-op-Zoom and Maestricht to Holland, Savoy and Nice to Sardinia, and the Low Countries to Austria, and for herself demands the restitution of Cape Breton, taken by the English, and for the infant, Don Philip, son-in-law of Louis,

the duchy of Parma. Thus the influence of the Bourbons prevailed over that of the House of Austria.

The treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle was followed by seven years of peace, during which time the condition of the people was improved, and arts and literature flourished; differences then arose between France and England respecting their possessions in America. By the treaty of Utrecht, Acadia or New Scotland had been given to the English, and during five years, conferences respecting this had been going on in Paris. The English, seeing no prospect of a termination of the negotiations, and knowing that the French were occupied in re-establishing their marine, began hostilities, and Admiral Boscowen captured two French vessels near Newfoundland. Had France been prudent she would have confined herself to naval war, but the ministers could not resist the temptation of taking possession of Hanover, and Louis XV. entered into a league formed against Frederick the Great, of Prussia, who gained the victory of Rosbach, 1757, over the Marshal de Soubise, and soon repaired his own defeats. The French obtained Minorca, through the misconduct of the English Admiral Byng, who was tried and shot. The arms of England, however, were very successful in India. Chandernager fell in 1759, Pondicherry and Mahé in 1761. In America the French lost Canada, Guadaloupe, Tobago, Dominica, and Martinique.

At the death of the Empress Elizabeth, whom personal resentment alone armed against Russia, Russia retired from the war; France and England followed this example, and peace was signed at Paris 1763; by this treaty France lost Louisbourg, Canada, the river and the gulf of St. Lawrence, Dominica, St. Vincent, Tobago, and the establish-

ments of Senegal. Spain gave up Florida, the Fort St. Augustine, and the Bay of Pausacola.

The quarrels of the Jansenists continued, and in 1732, pretended miracles were performed in the cemetery of St. Médard, upon the tomb of the deacon Pâris. The Archbishop of Paris caused the sacrament to be refused to all persons accused of Jansenism ; the parliament having protested against these measures was exiled in 1749, but it was recalled in 1754, when it showed itself more daring, and refused to submit to the Pope's bull Unigenitus. All sorts of epigrams were made on the Jansenists ; Fleury did not attack them till the pretended miracles began to verge on the ridiculous ; he then ordered the cemetery to be closed. A wit wrote on the gate :

“ De par le roi, défense à Dieu  
De faire miracle en ce lieu.”

In 1757 the fanatic Damiens attacked the life of Louis XV., as he was entering his carriage at Versailles. Upon feeling himself wounded, the king exclaimed, “ There is the man who struck me, take him and do him no harm.” The court and Louis himself were alarmed, although the wound was slight, but it was feared the knife had been poisoned. Damiens was seized and conveyed to a room in the palace, where he was tortured with hot pincers. He seems to have committed this act from an insane wish for notoriety, but was doubtless guided in his choice of a victim by the popular dislike to the king. He tried, with a glimmering of reason, to give respectability to his crime by implicating the parliament and the Jansenists with it ; these confessions filled the court and kingdom with suspicions, and the Jesuits were accused of the crime. They were also said to appro-

priate to their purposes money given to them for religious missions. Father Lavalette had opened a bank at Martinique, which flourished until the war, when the capture of vessels by the English ruined it. Pursued for a debt of 3,000,000, the father was abandoned by the Jesuits, who were, however, summoned to appear before the Parliament, and condemned to pay his debts. In 1762 the Parliament ordered the sale of the property of the Jesuits. Louis hesitated to consent to this measure, but was decided by General Rici ; and in 1770 Pope Clement IV. sanctioned the abolition of the Order of Jesuits.

The dauphin, son of Louis XV., died in 1765, aged 36 years, he was a good and virtuous prince ; his wife, Maria Josepha, a princess of Saxony, survived him fifteen months only. They left three sons and three daughters : Louis XVI., Louis XVIII., and Charles X. ; Adelaide Clotilde married the Prince of Piedmont, Elizabeth, Philippine, and Marie Zephirine.

The Duc de Choiseul became all-powerful in 1764, he had the talent of showing the easy and pleasant side of every undertaking to the king, and his ministry had an "éclat" which made him dear to the nation. He united Corsica to France in 1769 ; he concluded the marriage of Louis XVI., dauphin, to Marie Antoinette, daughter of the Empress, Maria Theresa, but he lost the king's confidence by refusing to flatter the new favourite, the Countess du Barry, and through her influence he soon ceased to be prime minister ; he was disgraced, and exiled to Chanteloup in 1770.

In 1771, the Chevalier Maupon broke up all the Parliaments of the kingdom, because they refused to obey the king ; he composed fresh ones which depended entirely upon

the king and his ministers. The Abbé Terray augmented the general dissatisfaction by the manner in which he administered the finances. Louis, who had once received the surname of "Well Beloved," was now become an object of abhorrence to the nation. He was one of the worst kings who ever ruled over France, he was profligate, extravagant, and without principle. The people, exhausted by war and taxes, complained loudly, but Louis turned a deaf ear to them, and upon Louis XVI. fell the miseries caused by his predecessors.

Louis XV. died of small-pox in 1774, aged 64 years, having reigned 59 years. By his wife, Maria Leczinski, he had one son, the dauphin, who died in 1765, and four daughters: Adelaide, Victoire, Sophie, and Louise Marie, who became a nun. His grandsons were Louis XVI., king, beheaded 21st January, 1793; Louis XVIII., king in 1814, died 1824; Charles X., king in 1824, abdicated 1830, died in 1836. His granddaughters were Adelaide Clotilda, married Charles of Sardinia; Elizabeth Philippine, beheaded in 1747, and Marie Zephirine. Louis XV. founded a military school for the education of 500 orphan or poor young nobles at the expense of the state. Agriculture progressed greatly, the Veterinary School was founded. The king caused a royal manufactory for porcelaine to be made in 1748. Louis was fond of geography, he wrote a treatise upon the rivers of France. Diderot, the principal author of the French Encyclopedia, lived in this reign, as also did Voltaire Rousseau, and d'Alembert.

## LOUIS XVI.

1774—10th August, 1792.

LOUIS was 20 years old when he ascended the throne. His tutor, the Duc de la Vauguyon, brought him up more as if he were destined to become a monk than a king ; he kept him ignorant of history and even of the science of governing ; his appearance was “ slovenly, melancholy, ungraceful, bashful, and so diffident, that his eyes often shrunk from the regard of his meanest subject.” He was, however, pious and tolerant, and his greatest desire was the prosperity of his subjects. He at once diminished the taxes, and altogether abolished some. He was of great probity, but wanted firmness, and was as powerless to conduct the revolution as incapable of being the conqueror or the chief of it.

He made an unhappy choice of prime minister in Monsieur de Maurepas, who was an aged experienced man of the world, and an enemy of Choiseul and of Austria ; he was devoid of principle, and indifferent to the people’s good—wished only to reign over them. Turgot, a man of noble heart and independent mind, succeeded Terray in the management of the finances. It was now that Louis XVI. committed the great mistake of recalling the old parliament, and sending away those that the Chancelier Maupon had established. Turgot wished to free the rural districts from statute labour ; he proposed to levy a tax common to all classes, and to abolish the internal duties of commerce. The parliament opposed these measures, and the intrigues of the court brought about the disgrace of the ministers. Turgot was forsaken by the king, who at the same time said, “ Turgot and I are the only persons who desire the people’s welfare.”

Clugny and Toboureau des Reaux, both mediocre men, succeed him but they quickly pass from the finances, and are replaced by the Swiss Necker. The confidence that this banker inspired raised the public credit, yet he only borrowed and added to the already great debt. While France was trying useless means to relieve the financial distress, war broke out. Some taxes imposed by the English upon their colonies in America caused a rebellion. In 1776 the United States proclaimed their independence, and constituted themselves a republic. The same year Benjamin Franklin, a man celebrated for his discoveries in natural philosophy, his diplomatic talents, and his courage, came over to implore the aid of the French. While Louis hesitated, opinion declared for the Americans; the young Marquis Lafayette escaped from France in order to join the Americans and Washington, and in 1778 a treaty of alliance and of commerce was concluded with the new republic. War was in consequence declared by England, and in the month of July, 1778 a victory was gained by the French at Ushant.

Spain, united to France by the "pacte de famille," joined its fleet to that of its ally, and besieged Gibraltar. The northern powers now formed a defensive league, under the name of "Armed Neutrality," in order to protect commerce. Gibraltar was defended by Admiral Rodney.

In 1781 Lord Cornwallis fortified himself in York Town, but was obliged to surrender to Washington, to whom Rochambeau had in the preceding year given help from France.

A change in the English ministry having put Fox in power, the treaties of Paris and Versailles were signed in 1783. The independence of the United States was recognised. France recovered its colonies and acquired Senegal,

Tobago, St. Peter, and was also to have the right to fish off Newfoundland. Spain kept possession of Minorca, and Holland gave Negapatam to the English, and assured to them navigation in the Indian seas ; it recovered its other colonies.

The death of Maurepas left the king without a favourite, and Necker having been dismissed, he had no one to suggest plans to him. Vergennes succeeded to the place of Maurepas, but he had very little power over the king, who was now much guided by Marie Antoinette, but she unfortunately gave power to men who brought about her own ruin and that of the state. After Necker, Joly de Fleury, and d'Ormesson succeeded each other as heads of the Treasury, but this post had become one of great difficulty, on account of the ever-increasing national debt, and the great deficit. In 1783 Calonne was named minister : his talents, fertile in expedients, made face to the immediate wants by new loans ; he inspired hope at first, but he could not long conceal the deficit of 112,000,000. He advised the king to convoke an Assembly of Notables, in 1787. He proposed to equalise the taxes, levying them on the nobles, clergy, and commons ; the Assembly, which was composed of the notables or chiefs of the privileged orders, refused its consent to the project of Calonne, who was obliged to escape by flight from the cabals formed by his enemies. Brienne, Archbishop of Toulouse, then took possession of the government, but he, in his turn, was soon obliged to give up his place to Necker, whom the public had long re-demanded. It was decided that the States-General should be assembled on the 1st May, 1789, and that seeing the importance of the “tiers état” or commons, they should have a representation equal to that of the

other assemblies. This was the first step in the direction of the Revolution.

The causes of the Revolution were :

- 1.—The too great extension of royal power.
- 2.—The derangement of the finances began under Louis XIV., and continued under Louis XV. and Louis XVI.
- 3.—The immorality of the higher classes and of the Government under the regency.
- 4.—The writings of the authors of the 18th century.
- 5.—The resistance to necessary reforms.
- 6.—The resentment of the middle and inferior classes against the aristocracy.
- 7.—The example of America.
- 8.—Individual liberty violated by the “lettres de cachet,” and that of the press by the royal “censures.”

The consequences of the Revolution were :

- 1.—The abolition of the Government and of feudal rights, as well as of the privileges of birth.
- 2.—The abolition of torture.
- 3.—Equality before the law.
- 4.—Regular justice and independent tribunals.
- 5.—National representation for making laws and voting taxes.
- 6.—Liberty of the press and of religious opinions.

The Institutions of the Revolution were : The Jury, the National Guard, the Division of France into Departments, and the French Institute, consisting of five academies: the French Academy, the Academy of Belles Lettres, the Academy of Moral Sciences, the Academy of Physical Sciences, and the Academy of Fine Arts.

## THE CONSTITUENT OR FIRST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

FROM 5TH MAY, 1789, TO 1ST OCTOBER, 1791.

ON the 5th May, 1789, Louis XVI. opened the States-General in person. "A religious ceremony preceded their installation. The king, his family, his ministers, the deputies of the three orders, went in procession from the church of Notre Dame to that of Saint Louis, to hear the opening mass. Men did not without enthusiasm see the return of a national ceremony, of which France had for so long a period been deprived. It had all the appearance of a festival. An enormous multitude flocked from all parts to Versailles; the weather was splendid; they had been lavish of the pomp of decoration. The excitement of the music, the kind and satisfied expression of the king, the beauty and demeanour of the queen, and, as much as anything, the general hope exalted everyone. But the etiquette, costumes, and order of the ranks of the States of 1614 were seen with regret. The clergy in cassocks, large cloaks, and square caps, or in violet robes and lawn sleeves, occupied the first place. Then came the nobles, attired in black coats, with waistcoats and facings of cloth of gold, lace cravats, and hats with white plumes, turned up in the fashion of Henry IV. The modest third estate came last, clothed in black, with short cloaks, muslin cravats, and hats without feathers or loops. In the church the same distinction as to place existed between the three orders."—Mignet.

Five weeks were passed by the States in debating how the different powers should be verified, and if votes should be given by poll or order. The noblesse and the clergy re-

fused to unite with the tiers état for the verification, and refused also voting by head, it was taking the advantage of double representation from it. The tiers, which was divided into two parties, one headed by Mounier and Malouet, and the other by Mirabeau and Siéyes, counted 621 members, of whom 214 were men of law; the clergy counted 608, and the noblesse 235 members. Bretagne had refused to send representatives.

On the 17th June the tiers and a part of the clergy formed a Constituent Assembly by the advice of Siéyes. On the 20th the Deputies having found the hall of States closed by superior order, were conducted by their president, Bailly, to a Tennis court which was at hand, where they swear with elevated hands not to separate till they have given a constitution to France. On the 23rd the king in a royal sitting, annulled the decrees of the Assembly, improved reforms, and ordered the deputies to retire. The clergy and nobles obeyed, but some members of the tiers refused to quit their places, and Mirabeau replied to De Brégé, the grand-master of the ceremonies, who called to order: "Go and tell your master that we are here by the will of the people, and that we will only be expelled by the force of the bayonet." On the 27th of June the tiers was joined by the other two parties forming only one assembly. Louis now caused foreign troops to come to Versailles, which soon had all the appearance of a camp; Paris was also in a state of excitement, and on the 30th, the people, at a suggestion made at the Palais Royal, forced open the prison of l'Abbaye, and set several French guards at liberty, who had been imprisoned for refusing to fire on the people.

On the 12th July, the people hearing that Necker was

exiled, assembled from all parts; a low demagogue named Corneille Desmoulins, mounted upon a table at the Palais Royal, and cried out: "Citizens, the exile of Necker is the knell of a Saint Bartholomew for patriots; this evening the Swiss and German battalions will leave the Champ de Mars to massacre us, there is but one measure left to us: that of arming ourselves." Himself and followers then took the leaves of the trees for cockades, and marched about the streets of Paris with busts of Necker and of the Duke of Orleans, which they took from the house of a sculptor named Curtius; the French guards took the part of the people, and the foreign troops refused to march on the capital. On the 13th they pillaged the shops of the sword cutlers and gunsmiths, took the cannons of the Invalides, and organised a militia which, in a few hours, numbered 48,000 men. On the 14th the order was given for the cannons of the Bastille to be pointed on the Rue S. Antoine; upon learning this, the people go there and begin the siege, the French guards following with cannon. De Launay, the governor of the fort, obliged to surrender, demanding that he, his officers, and soldiers be allowed to retire with the honors of war: "No," cried the assembled multitudes, "give them up to us, they have fired upon their fellow-citizens, and they deserve to die." They were massacred, De Launay was also slain, as well as the provost of the merchants, Hesselles. Bailly was then named mayor of Paris, Lafayette commanding the Parisian forces. The nation was divided into royalists and patriots, aristocrats and democrats. The people, arming themselves against the noble and rich, pillaged and burnt the castles. The Duke of Orleans was suspected of exciting the people to sedition; how far this is true it is now

impossible to say, but his character may be judged from the fact of his having later voted for the death of the king.

On the 15th July Louis XVI. went to the States, which he named for the first time National Assembly; he announced the dismissal of the troops, and added, "I confide myself to you." The whole assembly re-conducted him to the castle; he approved the nomination of Bailly and Lafayette, and said he should return to Paris; on his arrival there Bailly received him, and presenting the keys to him said, "Sire, I bring to your majesty the keys of his good city of Paris; they are the same that were presented to Henry IV., he had conquered his people; here the people have re-conquered their king." During the night of the 4th and 5th of August, the assembly, provoked by the patriotic exhortation of Noailles, declared the abolition of all the privileges of the clergy and noblesse. The king by the advice of the court, at first refused his sanction to these decrees; the troops were re-called to Versailles, and the body guard gave a banquet to the officers of the regiment of Flanders on the 1st October; white cockades were distributed to the guests, and the health of the royal family was drunk; Louis and his queen appeared at this repast, which was imprudently renewed on the third, and caused a tumult in Paris. The want of flour was the first pretext, the women of the city running about the streets crying, "Bread, bread." The Hôtel-de-ville was then invaded, the tocsin is heard, and the mass of people shouting, "To Versailles!" are conducted thither by Maillard; the national guard demand to follow, and Lafayette, after vainly endeavouring to dissuade them, puts himself at their head. Upon their arrival at Versailles, the cry for "bread" was repeated:

the king received the people well, and promised them help, but a serious fracas took place between the national and the body guards ; the columns of Lafayette, however, re-established order. The next day, at six o'clock, some men entered the palace by means of an unguarded avenue ; a body guard, insulted by them, fired and wounded one of them. The rebels then threw themselves upon the guard, who were too weak to resist them, and rushed up the staircase, clearly showing by their cries that they intended to attack the queen : "We will cut off her head! Tear out her heart!" One of the body-guards had just time to rush to her apartments and warn her to escape. She fled with the dauphin to the king. Lafayette arrived at this moment and stopped the massacre of the guards ; the king then appeared at the balcony and promised to establish himself at Paris. He went there escorted by the army, his guards, and the Assembly, which also fixed itself at Paris. At this time France was divided into eighty-six departments, the departments into districts, the districts into cantons, and these again into municipalities.

The Treasury being empty, it was now proposed to sell the property of the clergy for the good of the state. Tallyrand, bishop of Autun, persuaded the majority of the clergy to consent to this measure ; the State charging itself with the debts of the priests, the expenses of the altar, and of the hospitals. As it was not possible to sell this property immediately, 400 millions of "assignats" or paper money was made to represent the value of the goods to be sold.

The anniversary of the 14th July was chosen for again swearing to maintain the new constitution ; this fête of the Federation took place in the Champ de Mars ; in the centre

was elevated an altar, around which were seen the king, his family, and the Assembly. Tallyrand officiated; Lafayette took the first civic oath. In his own name and in that of the Federates and troops, he said: "We swear eternal fidelity to the nation, the law, and the king; to maintain to the utmost of our power the Constitution, decreed by the National Assembly, and accepted by the king; and to remain united with every Frenchman by the indissoluble ties of fraternity."

Louis XVI. then swore to maintain the Constitution, and the queen, holding her son up in her arms, showed him to the people. The bishops who refused the oath were called refractory, the others constitutional.

Mirabeau died of heart disease on the 1st of April, 1791. France wore mourning for him, and his remains were interred in the Pantheon, which had lately been consecrated to great men by the grateful country. On the 20th May the Emperor Leopold and the Duc d'Artois signed the declaration of Mantoue, by which it was agreed that the coalition of foreign powers should send troops to the frontiers of France. Louis, however, who hoped to conquer without foreign intervention, would not consent to this. The emigrants also united themselves at Worms under Condé, and at Coblenz under Artois.

For some time past the king had been in correspondence with General Bonillé, who, encamped at Montmédy, persuaded him to entrench himself behind the walls of that town, whence he could retire to Luxembourg, and so leave the kingdom if necessary. On the 21st June, the king, the queen, Mde. Elizabeth, sister of Louis, the royal children, and Madame Tourzel, governess to the children, left the

Tuileries at midnight, separately, and got into a berlin, drawn by six horses, which was awaiting them on the boulevard. In the morning only was their departure known in Paris: everybody was stupefied. In a writing left by the king, he recalled all the humiliations he had suffered, and said he would wait on the frontiers, ready to repulse invasion.

The royal family proceeded in safety until they arrived at St. Ménéhould, where Louis, imprudently looking out of the carriage window, was recognised by Drouet, son of the postmaster, who at once galloped off to Varennes and caused him to be stopped on his arrival there. Bonillé, warned of this mishap, departed with a regiment to succour the royal party, but he arrived an hour and a half too late. Louis had left Varennes with the three commissioners sent by the Assembly for him, namely, Latour-Maubourg, Barnave and Péthion. The return journey lasted eight days, at the end of it Louis was received in silence. The National Assembly at once suspended him from his functions, until the end of the Constitution. A guard was charged to be responsible for the king, the queen, and the dauphin. On the 19th July, 1791, the exalted Republicans assembled in the Champ de Mars, where they excite the multitude to demand that the king shall be dethroned; Bailly and Lafayette are forced to proclaim martial law, and carrying the red flag, to charge the people in order to disperse them.

The Duc de Provence (Louis XVIII.) arrived alone at Brussels, and received from the emigrants the title of regent.

The Emperor Leopold II., the King of Prussia (Frederick William II.), and the Count of Artois, assembled at Pillnitz, where they made a treaty, in which they demanded the liberty of Louis XVI., and the dissolution of the Assembly;

in case of refusal they threatened to invade France. The Constitution refused the king the right of dissolving the States and of making laws. The Constitution ended ; the king was allowed liberty to examine it ; at last on the 30th of September, Louis XVI. accepted the convention, and Thouriet, the last president, declared the Assembly dissolved.

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1791—1792.

THE Legislative Assembly opened its sittings on the 1st October, 1791, but it was from the first hostile to the king. The exalted party on the Left formed the Assembly ; the “Feuillans” or Constitutionalists composed the Right and carried on its relations with the king and court by means of Barnave and Lameth, but their counsels were seldom followed by the king. They were supported by the National Guard, the army, and all the constituted authorities. At the Left were the Girondists, who had sworn to defend the Revolution. Vergniard, Guadet, Gensonné, Isnard, were remarked as orators, and Brisset, Condorcet, Péthion, as chiefs. The members who occupied the superior benches of the Left and had the most exalted ideas, formed later, the Mountain party ; among these were Danton, Camille Desmoulins, Fabre d'Eglantine, and Robespierre.

The Legislative Assembly carried a decree against the Prince of Condé and the Duc de Bourbon, brothers of the king, the emigrants, the conspirators, and the “suspected”; the king refused to sanction this decree. At this time the Gironde party became more powerful through the nomination of Péthion as Mayor of Paris. The Assembly then

named Roland minister of the interior, and Dumouriez minister of foreign affairs. Louis XVI., seeing that Austria still continued hostile to France, proposed to the Assembly to declare war to Europe; this proposal was received with joy; preparations were immediately made, Rochambeau received the command of the army of the north, and Lafayette that of the centre, Luckner taking another army to the Rhine. The troops at first met with some reverses, and Rochambeau resigned. The Feuillans and Girondists became disunited, and the Jacobins did not conceal the joy they felt in the hope of soon seeing the confederates and emigrants in France, and the old Government restored. The court was also suspected of sharing these hopes. The Assembly at once took decided measures, it declared itself permanent, rendered a decree against the refractory priests, discharged the Household troops, and formed an army of 20,000 men to encamp outside Paris. The king, dissatisfied, opposed his veto, discharged the ministers, and selected others from the Feuillans. The Girondists finding power slipping from them, tried to retain their authority by popular force. On the 20th June, the anniversary of the Oath of the Tennis Court, 8,000 men marched towards the Assembly and demanded admittance in order to present a petition, conducted by Santerre and the Marquis de St. Huruge, they traverse the room, crying: "Vive la nation! a bas le véto!" Their leader then addressed the Assembly in threatening terms, he said the people were astir, and "ready to make use of great means—the means comprised in the declaration of rights, resistance of oppression; that the dissentient members of the Assembly, if there were any, would purge the world of liberty, and would repair to Coblenz." He concluded by saying:

"The executive power is not in union with you ; we require no other proof of it than the dismissal of the patriot ministers. It is thus, then, that the happiness of a free nation shall depend on the caprice of a king ! But should this king have any other will than that of the law ? The people will have it so, and the life of the people is as valuable as that of crowned despots. That life is the genealogical tree of the nation, and the feeble reed must bend before this sturdy oak ! We complain, gentlemen, of the inactivity of our armies ; we require you to penetrate into the cause of this ; if it spring from the executive power, let that power be destroyed." The Assembly promised to consider their request, and exhorted them to respect the legal authorities. They then went towards the Tuilleries, the outer doors were opened to them by the king's orders ; not content with this they mounted to the apartments and began to force the doors open with hatchets, Louis caused them to be opened and appeared before the excited multitude. Some of his friends obliged him to retreat to the recess of a window, where, seated on a chair which was placed on a table, he could be seen by the people. He replied to those who asked him to sanction the decrees : "This is neither the manner nor the moment to obtain it of me." It is then that he submitted to the humiliation of having a bonnet rouge placed upon his head ; he also drank without hesitation a glass of wine, presented to him by a workman half drunk. At last the mayor, Pétion, arrived, he addressed the people, who then retired.

Austria and Prussia published a threatening manifesto against the Assembly. The country was then said to be in danger, and all the citizens who would carry arms were called to active service. For several days the royal family

feared another insurrection, and several hundreds of Swiss, several of the royalist volunteers, and the ministers of the king occupied the palace. These fears were realised. At midnight a gun gives the signal, and bands of rebels march upon the palace. Pétion hastens thither, and implores the royal family to go for safety to the Assembly. The queen refused at first, but Louis, seeing how useless resistance would be, consented, and the royal party traversed the Tuileries amidst the shouts and cries of the people. Upon entering the Assembly the king said, "Gentlemen, I come here to stop a great crime; I shall always believe myself and family safe among you." He was conducted to the reporter's box, where he could see and hear everything that passed. Soon it was known that the 5,000 Swiss had been massacred at the Tuileries, and deputations followed each other to demand the deposition of the king. Upon the proposition of Verginaud the Assembly proposed: 1st. The convocation of a National Assembly. 2ndly. The suspension of the king. 3rdly. The dismissal of the ministers. Two days after the king, the queen, the dauphin, or Louis XVII., Mde. Royale (who afterwards married the Duc d'Angoulême) and the king's sister were transferred to the Temple, a prison not far from the Bastile, and which had originally been built and used by the Knights Templars. Lafayette had in vain tried to save the king, and after his deposition, finding it impossible to remain in France with safety, he endeavoured to reach Holland, from whence he could escape to the United States; but he was stopped, and confined during four years in the prisons of Magdebourg and of Olmütz (Moravia). The Prussian troops pass the frontier on the 23rd August, and take Longwy; at the same moment Danton and his friends organise

the massacre of the prisons, under pretext of delivering France of its interior enemies ; that is to say, of the suspected. “The capital was accordingly shut up, and from the 29th to the 31st of August presented a strange scene of desolation by day, and more dismal splendour by night. . . . Bands of trusty Jacobins meanwhile traversed every street, and searched every house where either royalist, priest, or aristocrat remained concealed ; and several thousand were thrown into prison before the inquisition terminated.

The victims having been congregated, and the minds of the populace influenced by daily speeches from the city demagogues, the acquittal of an ex-minister, or the confession of an executed royalist was the signal for the commencement of the slaughter. On Sunday, the 2nd of September, while the citizens were assembled at one extremity of Paris, by the sound of the tocsin, and a premature report of Verdun’s fall, a band of 200 assassins, under the direction of Maillard, began the immolation at another. Twenty-four priests, passing in a vehicle to the prison of Abbaye, first encountered their fury ; and, with one exception, were slaughtered amid the imprecations of the multitude. Two hundred others, who had sought shelter in a Carmelite church, became the next objects of vengeance, and were all, with the Archbishop of Arles at their head, either sabred within the walls, or shot in the adjoining garden and trees, to which they fled in vain expectation of refuge. Exhausted by their homicidal labour, the murderers repaired to a district of the municipality, and their demands for wine having been satisfied by the trembling authorities, they proceed to the prisons with renewed force and ferocity. The unfortunate inmates who had been dined two hours earlier than usual, and studiously deprived

of their knives and forks, as well as of all weapons of defence, implored, but vainly implored, for mercy. A scene of promiscuous slaughter ensued, interrupted only by the institution of a tribunal which sacrificed its victims with equal rapidity. The ceremony of a trial was proposed by one of the assassins; and the leader of the band, with a few of his associates as a jury, and the jail-books as accusers, were immediately installed in the porter's lodge as a court; while the rest remained outside in the yard to execute the sentence. At the bar of this tribunal, slight suspicion served as evidence of guilt; a few questions were asked, a signal was given by the president, the prisoner was conducted to the door, his executioners raised their knives, and in another moment the wretched being was no more. The soldiers of the Swiss guard were its earliest victims: "You assassinated the people on the 10th of August," was the brief accusation. "We were attacked, and only obeyed our officers," the equally short rejoinder. "Enough," said Maillard, "conduct them to La Force;" and the devoted men were immediately consigned to the infuriated multitude without. Montmorin, the ex-minister, whose acquittal had contributed to excite the massacre, was murdered next. "You must go to La Force" (the name of another prison), exclaimed the ferocious president; "Be it so," was the reply; and, requesting the indulgence of a coach, the deluded prisoner left the room amidst the savage laughter of his judges, and was immediately assassinated below. The whole day and night were spent in atrocities which humanity shrinks from contemplating, and history shudders to record. The murderers relented only when wearied with slaughter, and the few who escaped owed their safety either to brutal caprice or

to conditions still more revolting." Elizabeth Cazotte saved the life of her father by her prayers : she threw herself upon the neck of the old man, and would not be separated from him. Some days after, however, they succeeded in parting the girl from her father, and he was killed.

Mademoiselle de Sombreuil, daughter of the Governor of the Invalides, saved her father by drinking a glass of blood, which was presented to her. The Princess Lamballe, the intimate friend of Marie Antoinette, was beheaded ; her head was then elevated upon the top of a pike and carried in front of the queen's windows. Similar scenes took place in the prisons of the Carmes, La Force, the Conciergerie, etc. When they were empty, Billaud-Varennes distributed money as a recompence to the assassins.

In the meantime Dumouriez, who commanded the army of the Moselle, retarded the progress of the enemy in the forest of Argonne ; Kellermann also gained the victory of Valmy. The enemy then began to retreat, for they were without provisions or magazines ; disease had broken out in their army, and the roads were broken up by the incessant rains. The Prussians proposed peace, upon condition that Louis XVI. should be restored to the throne, but the Convention, which had then assembled, replied that no proposals would be listened to until the Prussians had entirely evacuated the French territory. The enemy then commenced a retreat, and reached Coblenz towards the end of October.

On the 28th September, 1792, the Legislative Assembly terminated its sittings, and the Republic was proclaimed.

## THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

21st Sept., 1792—18th March, 1804.

### NATIONAL CONVENTION.

1792—1795.

ON the 21st September the Convention commenced its deliberations ; it abolished royalty, and proclaimed the Republic.

For some time past the Jacobins had been preparing the minds of the people for the judgment of Louis XVI., and it was soon determined that he should be tried by the Convention. The king, therefore, under the name of Capet, was cited before the bar ; he appeared there for the first time on the 11th December, 1792. The members reproached him with the interruptions of the sittings of the 20th June, 1789, the banquet of the body guard, his refusal to sanction the decrees, his flight to Vincennes, the firing at the Champ de Mars, his relations with foreigners and with emigrants. The king protested his fidelity to the Constitution, and defended himself with calmness.

Louis directed that Target and Tronchet should defend him. The first refused, upon which Malesherbes offered himself, saying : “ I have been called twice to the council of him who was my master, when this post was the ambition of all the world ; I owe him this service now when it is a post considered dangerous by many.” Malesherbes and Tronchet,

aided by the young Desèze, prepare to defend their king. The defence was ready and presented on the 26th of December ; it ended in these words : " Listen, in anticipation to what history will say to France : Louis, ascending the throne at twenty, presented an example of morals, justice, and economy ; he had no weakness, no corrupting passion ; he was the constant friend of the people. Did the people desire the abolition of an oppressive tax ? Louis abolished it : did the people desire the suppression of slavery ? Louis suppressed it ; did the people solicit reforms ? he made them ; did the people wish to change its laws ? he consented to change them : did the people desire that millions of Frenchmen should be restored to their rights ? he restored them : did the people wish for liberty ? he gave it them. Men cannot deny to Louis the glory of having anticipated the people by his sacrifices, and it is he whom it is proposed to slay. Citizens, I will not continue, I leave it to history ; remember she will judge your sentence, and her judgment will be that of ages." This defence was delivered by Desèze amidst profound silence, but it was in vain ; passions had deafened men's ears, and deadened every feeling of humanity.

On the 20th January, 1793, the sentence of death was pronounced by the President of the Convention, Vergniaud, by a majority of twenty-six voices. Louis heard his sentence with calmness ; he asked for a reprieve of three days, also for a priest and permission to see his family. The two last requests only were granted. His last interview with his family was painful in the extreme ; he parted from them promising to see them again the next day, but he found he had not the courage to do so. The next morning at 5 o'clock the king heard mass and communicated ; he then sent his adieux

to his wife by Cléry, his valet, he also gave him a ring, a seal, and some of his hair for his family. Upon the arrival of Santerre, he said to him: " You come to fetch me ? I ask one moment." He then gave his will to the municipal officer, took his hat, and said firmly: " Let us go." Louis XVI. arrived in an hour's time at the Place de la Revolution, where the scaffold was erected ; the people were dull and silent. Leaving the carriage the king firmly mounted the steps of the scaffold, received the benediction of the priest, Edgeworth, who said to him : " Son of Saint Louis, ascend to heaven ;" he submitted with repugnance to have his hands tied, and going to the left of the scaffold, said: " I die innocent, I pardon my enemies, and you, oh unfortunate people . . . . " but the beating of the drums covered his voice. At ten minutes past 10 o'clock he had ceased to live. He was aged thirty-nine years, and had reigned sixteen and a half years. " His ancestors bequeathed to him a revolution. He was better calculated than any of them to prevent and terminiate it ; for he was capable of becoming a reformer-king before it broke out, or of becoming a constitutional king afterwards. He is, perhaps, the only prince who, having no other passion, had not that of power, and who united the two qualities which make good kings, fear of God and love of the people. He perished the victim of passions, which he did not share : of those of the persons about him, to which he was a stranger ; and to those of the multitude, which he had not excited. Few memories of kings are so commendable. History will say of him, that, with a little more strength of mind, he would have been an exemplary king." The death of Louis XVI. rendered the different parties irreconcilable, and from that time the

Mountaineers did not cease to persecute the Girondists.

The victory of Jemmapes, 1792, opened Belgium to Dumouriez. The Jacobins sent revolutionary agents there, who caused much trouble. England, Holland, and Spain formed a coalition against France, and the Convention to make face to all these enemies, levied an army of 300,000 men, and created an extraordinary tribunal, composed of 9 members, to defend the interior. The news of the reverses suffered by the troops on the confines of Belgium, irritated the Mountaineers, who formed the project of assassinating the Girondists, during the sitting of the 10th March, but the Girondists, warned in time, remain at home. The next day Vergniard discovered the authors of the plot, and made them known in a discourse which he ended by these words : "Citizens, it is to be feared that the Revolution, like Saturn, does devour successively all his children, and that at last despotism only will remain with the calamities which accompany it."

In 1793 the Count de la Rouairie, prepared a rising in Vendée ; he levied 300,000 men, but he was arrested, and the arrangements made by him failed. The principal chiefs were Chatelinair, Charette, d'Elbée, and Talmont. In March and April the priests and nobles who took part in these risings were out-lawed by the Convention. The emigrants were also banished for ever, and all their goods confiscated.

The revolutionary tribunal now began its terrible functions. Dumouriez had just lost the battle of Neerwinden, against the Prince of Cobourg ; this caused the loss of Belgium. Dumouriez then entered into negotiations with Austria, and was accused of wishing to re-establish the mon-

archy in France, in favour of the Duke de Chartres, Louis Philippe. He was summoned to the bar of the Convention and refused to appear; Bournonville, minister at war, and four commissioners are then sent to arrest him; he tendered his resignation, saying, "The tigers want my head, but I shall not give it to them." Camus gave the order to make him prisoner: "This is too much!" exclaimed Dumouriez, "Help, hussars!" and he had the commissioners taken, and gave them as hostages to the Austrians. Bournonville asked to partake their fate; "Yes," said the general, "I do you a service in taking you from the revolutionary tribunal." He himself then went over to the enemy.

The Girondists were accused of complicity with Dumouriez, although they had acted against him with the Mountaineers. The section of Sans-culottes, conducted by Henriot, and the Tricoteuses of Robespierre demanded that this party should be destroyed. Guadet proposed then to carry the Convention to Bourges, and to break the authorities at Paris. The fear of civil war prevented this project from being carried out, and they established a commission of twelve members, charged to find the authors of the plot. They caused Hébert (author of the *Feuille Père Duchêne*) to be arrested. The commune then prepared the days of the 31st May, and the 2nd of June; on the 27th they began the attack demanding the liberty of Hébert, which they obtained. On the 31st the tocsin was sounded early in the morning, and the troops commanded by Henriot march upon the Convention, which was sitting at the Tuilleries. The Commission of the Twelve is then abolished.

The day of the 1st June was occupied in preparing an insurrection: Marat himself sounded the tocsin. On the 2nd

June the people besiege the Tuileries, and demand the arrest of the twenty-four members. The committee of public safety proposed to the accused members that they should suspend their functions themselves. Lajuinais refused : "Do not expect from us either dismissal or suspension," cried he, "when the ancients prepared a sacrifice they crowned the victim with flowers and chaplets in conducting him to the altar ; the priests slew him, but did not insult him." It was then announced to Henriot that the Convention was no longer free, it was besieged till the members rose in indignation, their president remaining covered in sign of distress. They arrive at the Place du Carrousel, and find Henriot on horseback, sabre in hand. "What does the people demand?" said the president, Heraut de Schelles, "the Convention is only occupied in promoting its happiness." "Heraut," replied Henriot, "the people has not risen to listen to phrases ; it desires that the twenty-four guilty members be given up." "Let all be given up to us!" cried the Girondists. "Cannoneers, to your guns," cried Henriot, and two pieces are directed upon the Convention. It is in vain that they try to escape, armed soldiers everywhere. Marat traverses the ranks, encouraging the rebels : "No weakness!" said he, "do not leave your posts till they are given up to us." The Convention enters into the midst of its sittings, and Marat, true dictator of the Assembly, decides the fate of its members. Among the proscribed were Guadet, Péthion, Vergniard, Lajuinais, Buzat, Barbaroux, Lasource, and the members of the council of twelve, who were placed under arrest in their own houses. Several of the Girondists escaped, a good number retired to Caen, which they made the centre of the insurrection, and where they plotted to

march upon Paris, under the command of General Winfen. Lyons shook off the yoke of the Convention, and put itself in a state of defence ; it also levied an army of 20,000 men, commanded by Presy and the Marquis de Vernieux.

It was at this time that Charlotte Corday, a woman of 25 years of age, touched by the misfortunes of the Girondists, decided to alleviate them if possible. She came from Caen to Paris with the intention of stabbing Marat. She succeeded in obtaining an interview with him, and struck him in his bath at the moment he was writing out a new list of victims. Two days later Charlotte Corday was conducted to the scaffold ; she died with courage, glorying in the act which had delivered the country of a tyrant. Marat was deified by the people, and buried in the Pantheon. His character may be judged by the following sketch from Timbs' Curiosities of History : "Marat, in recommending the massacre of all aristocrats, scrupled not to proclaim, through his paper, the "Ami du Peuple," that 270,000 heads must fall by the guillotine ; and he published lists of persons whom he consigned to popular vengeance and destruction, by their names, descriptions, and places of residence. He was remarkable for the hideous features of a countenance at once horrible and ridiculous, and for the figure of a dwarf, not above five feet high. He was, on his first appearance in the mob meetings of his district, the constant butt of the company, and maltreated by all, even to gross personal rudeness. The mob, however, always took his part, because of the violence of his horrid language. Thus, long before he preached wholesale massacre in his journal, he had denounced 800 deputies as fit for execution, and demanded that they should be hanged on as many trees. His constant topic was assassi-

nation, not only in his journal but in private society. Barbaroux describes him, in his "Mémoires," as recommending that all aristocrats should be obliged to wear a badge, in order that they might be recognised and killed : "But," he used to add, "you have only to wait at the playhouse door and mark those who come out, and to observe who have servants, carriages, and silk clothes, and if you kill them all, you are pretty sure to have killed so many aristocrats, or i ten in a hundred should be patriots, it don't signify, you have killed ninety aristocrats."

All the French were called to the defence of the country. Barrière proposed to enrol for a permanency all the young men from fifteen to twenty-five years old. The married men transported the baggage and made arms, the women were employed in the service of the hospitals, and in making clothes and tents ; the children made lint from old linen ; the old men harangued the people. The national buildings became barracks, the public squares workshops : all horses were required. France had soon fourteen armies, and 120,000 men. The law of the suspected caused all to be thrown into prison who inspired fear. General Carteaux marched against the rebels of the south ; submission would have been complete if the royalists had not delivered Toulon to the English ; Admiral Hood took possession of it in the name of Louis XVII. But it was re-taken the 19th December, 1793. It is here that the young Napoleon Bonaparte distinguished himself for the first time.

Lyons was besieged by Kellerman ; it sustained a siege of seventy days ; famine forced it to surrender at last.

The Duke of York was defeated at Dunkirk, by Hou chard, on the 8th September, 1793 ; and Jourdan, his suc-

cessor at the army of the North, defeated the Prince of Cobour at Watigines, the 16th October, 1793.

It is then that the Committee of Public safety caused such terrible executions. Lyons was given up to be pillaged ; the edifices that had resisted fire were demolished ; the inhabitants, numbering 2,000, were killed with grape shot. It lost its name, and was called "Ville Affrauchie." Collet d'Herbois, Couthon, and Fouché committed these horrors. At Toulon the same things were done by Barras and Fréron. Carrier was sent to Nantes to punish the inhabitants of Vendée. In order to exterminate them, firing, the guillotine, and at last drowning were employed. Vessels, loaded with prisoners, were opened and emptied in the Loire.

Marie Antoinette had been separated from her sister and daughter. The dauphin had been consigned to the care of the ferocious shoemaker, Simon. The queen appeared before the Revolutionary Tribunal on the 14th October ; she was accused by Fouquier-Thinville of having wasted the treasury, and of having had relations with foreign powers, whose help she desired. Chanveau-Legard conducted her defence, but she was condemned to death. On the 16th October Marie Antoinette was conducted to the scaffold, Place de la Revolution, where she died with courage, her firmness only giving way for a moment, at the sight of the Tuileries. Her daughter escaped after several years of imprisonment, and became the wife of the Duke d'Angoulême. The infant dauphin was given over to the mercy of the brutal Simon, who subjected him to the most inhuman treatment ; reason at last left him, and he died two years after his mother, insensible to the loss of his parents, and of all he had lost in losing them.

The Committee of Public Safety disposed of all under the name of the Convention, which served as its instrument ; it named and dismissed the generals and ministers, and governed the departments. The party of Robespierre was all-powerful ; the principal members were, St. Just, Couthon, Collet d'Herbois, Billaud, Varennes, Carnot, and Barrière.

The decimal system was now established, uniformity of weights and measures agreed upon, and the Gregorian era changed into Republican era. The year began the 22nd September, 1792, and was dated the First Year of Liberty. The month was of thirty days, and was divided into three decades, which took the place of the four weeks ; the tenth day of each decade was set apart for rest, and was considered as the old Sunday.

The year beginning in Autumn the three first months were : "Vendémiaire," September ; "Brumaire," October ; "Frimaire," November. For winter the months were : "Nivose," "Pluviose," and "Ventose." For Spring : "Germinal," "Floréal," and "Prairial." For Summer : "Messidor," "Thermidor," and "Fructidor." The five days which remained were called Complimentary Days, and were reserved for national fêtes, under the name of "Sans-culottes." The first was set apart for the festival of Genius, the second for that of Work, the third for Heroic Actions, the fourth for Rewards, and the fifth for Opinion. In Leap-years the extra day was consecrated to the Revolution.

The Girondists were still persecuted. On the 2nd of June twenty-one of them were proscribed, and seventy-three of their colleagues, who had protested against their arrest, were imprisoned. Valazé stabbed himself with a poignard upon hearing his sentence. Lasource said to his judges :

"I die the day the people have lost their reason, you will die when they recover it." They died with courage, singing the "Marseillaise" on their way to the scaffold.

The Duke of Orleans, suspected by all parties, was put to death on the 6th November, 1793. Bailly underwent his sentence on the 11th November; he was subjected to the outrages of the multitude during an entire day; the scaffold was moved for him to the Champ de Mars, because he was accused of having ordered the firing upon the people there. The rain, his age, and bad treatment made him tremble involuntarily: "You tremble, Bailly," said a soldier to him. "My friend," replied the poor old man, "it is the cold."

The Commune then tried to abolish the Catholic religion, and forced Gobet, Bishop of Paris, to abjure Christianity at the bar of the Convention. The worship of reason was decreed, churches were transformed into temples for this divinity, and each decade brought new scandals. Robespierre and the Committee of Public Safety blamed these measures, the Mountaineers became divided; Danton, Camille Desmoulins, and Fabre d'Eglantine tried to stop the terror. Since the 31st May the conduct of Danton had appeared equivocal, he had stopped in his career and sought repose. Camille Desmoulins, also tried to stop the excesses of the Revolution, and to put some feelings of humanity into the people by his journal, *Le vieux Cordelier*. The "anarchists" were conducted before the Revolutionary tribunal, and condemned to death; they all perished on the scaffold, amidst the insults of the populace. The proscription then attacked the "moderates." Danton did nothing to escape the danger, his friends advised him to fly, but he replied: Does one carry one's country on the heel of one's shoe?" He was

arrested in the night of the 11th Germinal (April, 1794), and conducted to the Luxembourg, with Camille Desmoulins and several of his partisans. They were condemned without their defence being heard. The 13th Germinal they were conducted to the scaffold; they were surrounded by a silent crowd; when in a cart, Camille Desmoulins said of his condemnation: "This then is the reward destined to the first apostle of liberty." At the foot of the scaffold Danton gave way for one moment, and said: "O my well-beloved! O my wife! I shall then see thee no more!" then interrupting himself: "Danton! No weakness," said he, and he died with firmness. But terror increased, the victims were slain by troops of twenty, and a law was passed forbidding to condemn more than sixty at a time. Malesherbes, with his family, died upon the scaffold. The sister of Louis XVI. was also killed at this time.

On the 18th Floreal, Robespierre abolished the worship of Reason, and decreed the existence of a Supreme being; the inauguration of the new religion was fixed to take place on the 20th Prairial, and Robespierre, the President of the Convention, promised to officiate as Grand Priest.

Robespierre feeling enemies rising round him, attacked them in a discourse on the 8th Thermidor, but the Convention opposed him, and refused to attack those denounced by him. On the 9th, St. Just rose, but Talien interrupted him, in order to expose the wrongs of the people, the work of one man—Robespierre. Billaud-Varennes joined him, and both of them attack the triumvirs. Talien showed the poignard with which he would stab Robespierre if the assembly refused to condemn him. Robespierre tried to rush to the tribune; the cries of "Down with the tyrant," prevent him

speaking ; he sat down, exhausted with rage and fatigue, foaming at the mouth. "The blood of Danton chokes him!" cried one of the monsters. Robespierre and his brother, who asked to share his fate, with Lebas, Conthon, and St. Just are then given over to the gendarmerie. As soon as the arrest of the triumvirs is known, the mayor, Henriot, organises an insurrection ; he traversed the streets, pistol in hand, crying, "To arms !" He hoped to deliver Robespierre and sent a message to him, telling him to be firm ; but he was arrested and conducted to the Convention, from whence he was again delivered by Coffinhal, at the head of 200 cannoneers. Henriot then advanced at the head of his troops, but he could not persuade them to turn their arms against the representatives of the people. The Hôtel-de-ville soon fell into the hands of the Conventionists. The conspirators, finding all was lost, sought to escape the death reserved for them by the Convention, by committing violence on themselves. Robespierre broke his jaw bone with a pistol shot ; Lebas killed himself ; the younger Robespierre threw himself from the third storey, but survived his fall ; Conthon, who had hidden under a table, gave himself several wounds with a trembling hand. Coffinhal accused Henriot of cowardice, threw him from the window into a gutter and escaped. The Conventionists, masters of the conspirators, carry them in triumph to the Assembly. Bourdon, upon entering the room cried out : "Victory ! Victory ! the traitors exists no longer." "The wretched Robespierre is there," cried the president ; "they carry him upon a stretcher, do you wish him to enter ?" "No, no, it is to the Place de la Revolution that he must go." Stretched upon a table, the face disfigured and bleeding, Robespierre was

given over to the guards, and to the insults and curses of the people. The Revolutionary tribunal sent him to the scaffold with his accomplices. On the 10th Thermidor, at 5 o'clock in the evening, he mounted the cart of death, and was placed between Henriot and Couthon ; his head was wrapped in a bloody linen cloth ; the crowd, which surrounded the cart gave way to their joy, congratulating each other, and loading him with imprecations. St. Just alone was calm, the other twenty-two condemned were cast down. Robespierre died the last ; after his head fell the applause lasted several minutes. The death of Robespierre put an end to the reign of terror. However, two parties divided the Assembly : the party of the Committee, which remained attached to the system of the Revolution, and that of the Mountain, composed of the "moderates." They created a sort of militia, so as to oppose the Jacobins, and called it La Jeunesse dorée de Fréron ; their costume was called Costume à la Victime, and consisted of a square open coat, low shoes, and hair long on each side and turned up behind. They were armed with short sticks, leadened at their ends ; they belonged to the rich or middle classes. On the 20th Breumaire the Jacobins were taken from the place of their sitting, and deposed ; on the 21st the Convention declared that the society of Jacobins had ceased to exist. The exiled deputies of the 31st May re-took their places, and the decrees against the priests were revoked.

The trial of Billaud-Varennes was to commence on the 3rd Germinal. The people, who were suffering from famine, assembled on the 1st in the faubourgs, and marched towards the Convention asking for bread, the Constitution of '93, and the liberty of detained patriots. The Jeunesse dorée

dispersed them, but on the 12th Germinal the movement was more marked still. The 1st Prairial (May) the agitators declared the Revolutionary government abolished, the convention of '93 established, the convocation of a Legislative Assembly which should replace the Convention, and the suspension of all authority not emanating from the people; all citizens were engaged to take arms and to march on the Convention. The Convention declared itself a permanency, shut its doors, and outlawed all the chiefs of this rising. However one door was forced open, and the women enter the tribunes crying: "Bread! And the Constitution of '93." The deputies preserve a firm countenance, and shots are fired in the room, the rebels took aim upon the president of the committee of subsistence, Boissy d'Anglas (surnamed Boissy Famine); a deputy rose to preserve him with his body, and fell covered with wounds; he was dragged into the lobby, and being taken for Fréron, his head was cut off, put upon a pike, and presented to Boissy d'Anglas, who uncovered and saluted it. The greater number of the deputies had escaped, and the rebels were nearly triumphant when the sections entered the room, bayonet in hand, and forced them to retreat. The Mountaineers were condemned to death, but they stabbed themselves with the same knife, which they passed one to the other, exclaiming: "Vive la République!" Three only wounded themselves mortally, the others died on the scaffold.

The faubourgs still had forces, the Assembly, therefore, ordered them to be disarmed, and the Constitution of '93 abolished.

The revolutionary arms were triumphant abroad; they were commanded by Jourdan, Pichegru, Hoche, Moreau, and

Kleber, and directed by Carnot, minister of war. The Austrian army threw itself upon the towns of the Somme, and threatened Paris, but it was defeated. Pichegru distinguished himself in Flanders. Moreau and Jourdan defeated the Prince of Cobourg at Fleurus, and Pichegru ended the conquest of Holland in 1794. The cavalry took a great part of the fleet at Texel, through the accumulation of ice. Holland was named the Batavian Republic.

The Convention now finished the third year of the Constitution ; it divided the legislative power into two chambers : the council of Five Hundred, whose members were at least 30 years old ; and the council of Ancients, composed of 250 members, each required to be at least 40 years old. The Five Hundred proposed laws, the Ancients sanctioned them. The executive power belonged to a directory of five members, and was renewed every year. The Convention fearing the power of the royalists, decreed that at least two-thirds of its members should form part of the Government ; this decree was the cause of a great movement. On the 11th Vendemaire (5th October), the electors who were to assemble at the Théâtre français, were conducted there by some troops of the sections. The Convention, warned of the danger, confided the care of the public safety to a committee of five members, and during the night the college of electors was dissolved. On the 12th, Lepelletier prepared all the sections for the contest ; in the evening General Menoue, sent to disarm the conspirators, was surrounded and forced to parley. The Convention then deposed him, and gave the command of the armed force to Barras, who demanded for second a young officer already distinguished at Toulon, Napoleon Bonaparte ; this last declared that the failure of Menoue had

been owing to the presence of the “Representatives of the People,” and refused to accept the command unless free from their interference. He sent Murat for the fifty great guns posted at Sablons, and stationed 5,000 men upon the points which seemed most likely to be attacked. Discharges of musketry were heard about half-past four o’clock, and the Convention armed itself. The combat commenced in the Rue St. Honoré, it was deadly, but lasted only a short time, on account of the precautions which had been taken ; at the end of the evening the streets were covered with wounded and dead ; the sectionaries were flying in all directions ; the Assembly showed itself full of moderation after the fight. The directors were : Lareveillère Lepeaux, Sièyes, Rewbel, Letourneur, and Barras. Sièyes, who refused, was replaced by Carnot. The Institutions of the Assembly were ; Uniformity of Weights and Measure ; the Metrical system ; the establishment at Paris of a Conservatory of Arts and Trades ; the foundation of three schools of Medicine at Paris ; and the formation of the “Ecole Polytechnique.”

## DIRECTORY.

1795—1799.

HOCHE was sent to conclude the war in Vendée ; he acquitted himself with address, and pacified that unfortunate country ; he also destroyed the bands of “Chouans,” then ravaging Bretagne, and forced Georges Cadoudal to retire to England.

Babœuf now put himself at the head of the democrats, and conspired against the Directory, which then closed the club of the Pantheon, where their sittings were held. The democrats then changed their plans, and conspired to destroy the constitution of the year III. But on the day fixed for the

attack the plot was discovered, and the conspirators seized. Babœuf, condemned by the high court, stabbed himself ; his accomplices were transported ; at the time of their trial their partisans tried to gain over the camp of Grenelle, but they did not succeed in doing so.

The Directory gave the command of the army of Italy to Bonaparte ; the objects of this expedition were : "First, to compel the King of Sardinia, who had already lost Savoy and Nice, but still maintained a powerful army on the frontiers of Piedmont, to abandon the alliance of Austria ; secondly, to compel the emperor, by a bold invasion of Lombardy, to make such exertions in that quarter as might weaken those armies which had so long hovered on the Rhine, if possible to stir up the Italian subjects of that crown to adopt the revolutionary system, and emancipate themselves for ever from its yoke. The third object, though more distant, was not less important ; the influence of the Romish Church was considered by the Directory as the chief, though secret cause of royalism, within their own territory, and to reduce the Vatican into insignificance or at least force it to submission and quiescence, appeared indispensable to the internal tranquility of France."

Bonaparte gained the victory of Montenotte on the 12th April, 1796, over Beaulieu, who retreated among the mountains, leaving 1,000 killed and 2,000 prisoners. He was victorious at Millesimo on the 15th April, over Colli, the Sardinian general, and succeeded in separating the Austrian forces from those of Sardinia ; Colli was again defeated at Mondovi, 22nd April, he lost his cannon, baggage, and the greater part of his army ; the Court of Turin now submitted, and the Peace of Cherasco was concluded.

The King of Sardinia, forced to submit, gave a passage through his dominions to the French troops ; Napoleon then gained the battles of Lodi, Castiglione, Révéreдо, and of Bassano, which gave him Lombardy. He then defeated the Austrian Alvinzi, at Arcola, after three hard battles fought in as many days, he there lost 8,000 men. The victory of Rivoli followed, 17th January, 1797 ; it was here that Napoleon had three horses shot under him.

Moreau was victorious on the Meuse and the Rhine ; all these successes brought about the peace, called of Campo-Formio, from the village where signed, by which the emperor renounced his sovereignty over Belgium and Lombardy, and agreed that the Rhine should be the limit between France and Germany.

The elections of the year V. occasioned some trouble ; several royalists entered into the councils ; the Directory caused troops to come to Paris, commanded by General Augereau ; he surrounded the Tuilleries where the Legislative body generally assembled. At the cry, "Are you Republicans?" the grenadiers, who were on guard, put down their arms and joined him, answering : "Vive Augereau ! Vive le Directoire !" Pichegru and several other members of the council were arrested and sent to the Temple, and in the evening the Directory was triumphant. Carnot and Barthélémy, members of the Directory, were condemned to exile, Carnot, however, managed to evade this sentence.

The result of the 18th Fructidor was the return of the revolutionary government ; the Directory had then arrived at its greatest power. The war of Italy ended, Bonaparte returned to Paris, and received unusual honours. Upon an altar raised in the Luxembourg, the flags taken from the

enemy were laid. He had been assisted in Italy by the Generals Massena, Augereau, Serrurier, and Berthier.

The financial crisis brought about a bankruptcy, the public debt was reduced to a third, payable only in specie; this consolidated third at five per cent., is the origin of the public debt "au grand livre."

Under the appearance of a descent into Italy, the Directory prepared for an expedition to Egypt; Bonaparte received the command of the army. He left Toulon the 30th Floréal, year VI. (19th May, 1798), with a fleet of 400 sail and a portion of the troops of Italy. After having taken Malta, the army disembarked in Egypt, and took Alexandria, 13th Messidor (1st July); five days after Napoleon marched upon Cairo, and on the 21st July he gained the battle of the Pyramids. It is then that he said to his soldiers: "Remember that from the heights of the Pyramids, 40 centuries look down upon you." "The French formed into separate squares and waited the assault of the Mamelukes; these came on with impetuous speed and wild cries, and practised every means to force their passage into the serried ranks of their new opponents. They rushed on the lines of bayonets, backed their horses upon them, and, at last, maddened by the firmness which they could not shake, dashed their pistols and carbines into the faces of the men. Nothing could move the French; the bayonet and the continued roll of musketry by degrees thinned the host around them, and Bonaparte at last advanced; such was the confusion and terror of the enemy when he came near the camp that they abandoned their works, and flung themselves by hundreds into the Nile. The carnage was prodigious, multitudes more were drowned; Mourad and a remnant of his Mamelukes retreated on Upper

Egypt. Cairo surrendered; Lower Egypt was entirely conquered." Bonaparte had left the fleet under the command of Admiral de Brueys, telling him to enter the port of Alexandria, or to sail for Malta. Brueys, however, ranged the fleet in the Bay of Aboukir, where Admiral Nelson attacked it 1st August, 1798; the fight was desperate and lasted over twenty hours; the Admiral's ship l'Orient took fire and was blown up, he himself perished. The French fleet was ruined, and the English were left Masters of the Mediterranean. England formed a second coalition in which all Europe joined except Prussia and Spain; the French plenipotentiaries who were negotiating the Treaty of Rastadt, received safe conducts, but they were assassinated by banditti in the Austrian uniform, supposed, however, to have been instigated to the crime, by intriguers of the Luxembourg. War is declared, and the conscription augments the army by 200,000 young men. The King of Naples advanced against Rome, but was defeated by General Championnet, who entered Naples after a bloody victory, and the Parthenopean Republic was declared. However, the coalition had forces very superior to those of the Republic, and attacked it on all sides.

The elections of the year VII. were Republican; Sièyes took place of Rewbell. The discontents demanded accounts of the internal and external condition of the country from the Directory, Treilhard is deposed and replaced by Gohier; Lareveillère and Merlin retire. Sièyes tried to destroy the constitution of the year III., and the 30th Prairial saw the disorganisation of the government.

Fortunately the progress of the enemy was arrested by Generals Massena and Brune. Massena repulsed Suwaroff,

and by forcing him to retreat disorganised the coalition. Brune, in Holland, obliged the Duke of York to re-embark and to renounce his intended invasion.

Bonaparte, having heard that the Porte was assembling an army in Syria, took the initiative, started with 12,000 men, and marched upon Palestine. Gaza was taken without opposition, and on the 17th Ventôse Napoleon entered Jaffa.

St. Jean d'Acre, the last stronghold of the Sultan, was then besieged; Sir Sydney Smith defended it, and Napoleon was obliged to raise the siege after seventeen assaults. He retreated with his army, in which the plague had broken out, to Jaffa, and from thence repaired to Cairo. He gained a celebrated victory at Mount-Tabor soon after.

Upon arriving in Egypt, Bonaparte found that an Ottoman army had disembarked upon the coast of Aboukir. The general hastened thither, and with inferior forces he gained a complete victory, destroying the enemies' army. It was then that Kleber, seizing Bonaparte by the shoulders, said, "General you are as great as the world."

Bonaparte, hearing of the troubles that had broken out in France, confided Egypt to the care of Kleber, left Damietta secretly, and arrived at Fréjus the 7th Vendémiaire (October), of the year VII. When starting he had said, "The reign of the Pettifoggers is over;" and in effect he arranged a plan with Sièyes, which should overthrow the Constitution of the year III.

The 18th Brumaire, several of the conspirators demanded of the Ancients that the Legislative Body be transported to St. Cloud, and that the command of the troops charged to make this translation be given to Napoleon: this was accordingly done, and by this means he found himself master

of the armed forces. The Ancients occupied the gallery of Mars, and the Five Hundred the Orangery. The Republicans alarmed, demanded that the oath of allegiance to the Constitution of the year III. shall be renewed. Bonaparte harangued the Ancients, and ranged them on his side ; wishing to present himself to the Five Hundred, he is repulsed by cries of "Down with the Dictator ! Outlaw him !" Lucien Bonaparte, his brother, president of the Five Hundred, being unable to make himself heard, deposed the symbols of the popular magistrature. Napoleon caused him to be brought from the room by a detachment of troops ; some members tried to escape to Paris, to find protection among the people, but the grenadiers penetrated into the hall, and ordered the council to disperse. The General Léclerc cried out, "In the name of General Bonaparte, the Legislative Body is dissolved. Let the good citizens retire. Grenadiers, forward !" The drums drown the cries of indignation, the Grenadiers advance, presenting bayonets, and the Legislatives jump from the windows, crying "Vive la République!"

## THE CONSULATE.

1799—1804.

THE day of the 18th Brumaire had great popularity, because everyone saw a triumph in it. Bonaparte, Sièyes, and Roger-Ducos were installed as consuls and charged to make the constitution. During this provisional government, "the law respecting hostages and compulsory loans was abolished ; the proscribed priests allowed to return ; thirty-six extreme Republicans were sentenced to transportation ; and twenty-one were placed under "surveillance" in the department of Charente-Inférieure ; this last act was rendered on the re-

port of Fouché, minister of police, and was unfavourably viewed by the public. The three consuls then, fearing the results, commuted transportation into surveillance, and withdrew surveillance itself."

Sièyes and Bonaparte, who could not agree as to the constitution, soon divided, and the first said : " We have a master, he wants to do everything, knows how to do everything, and can do everything." Sièyes, in his constitution, placed the power in the hands of two consuls, reserving to Bonaparte the functions of " grand électeur," but depriving him of all action. This system was abandoned ; on the 24th December, 1799, the constitution of the year VIII. was published ; the government was given to the first consul, who was seconded by two consuls having a deliberative voice. He alone proposed laws, the Tribunal discussed them, the Legislative Body refused or adopted them, and a Senate saw that they were kept. Bonaparte was named Consul for ten years ; he associated to himself Cambacérès and Lebrun. Talleyrand was named minister of foreign affairs, and Fouché prefect of police.

England having refused the peace proposed by the First Consul, the war was continued ; the 10th Floréal, Bonaparte set off for Italy, occupied by the Field-Marshal Mélas, who was preparing to enter Provence by Nice. Bonaparte passed the great St. Bernard with 40,000 men, and entered Milan on the 16th Prairial (2nd June). On the 9th June, the advance guard gained the battle of Monte Bello, in which engagement General Lannes distinguished himself. The fate of Italy was decided in the plains of Marengo 14th June. The Austrians retired behind Mantua, and abandoned Piedmont and Lombardy. Unfortunately Dessaix was killed during

the combat ; Kleber was assassinated on the same day at Cairo, he had just gained the victory of Heliopolis ; his death caused the loss of Egypt.

The return of Bonaparte to Paris was a triumph. It was then that he nearly perished by a conspiracy, organised by the Chouans, who had sought refuge in England. A few, who had disembarked on the coast of France, secretly made their way to Paris. They intended to blow up Napoleon's carriage as it traversed the rue St. Nicaise, on the way to the Opera. A barrel of powder was placed on a truck so as to obstruct the carriage-way, and a conspirator, St. Regent, was to set fire to it. The coachman, by driving rapidly between the truck and the wall, saved the life of the First Consul. The infernal machine exploded directly he had passed ; it shook the carriage, broke the windows and covered the street with ruins. The real conspirators, when discovered, were condemned to death.

Austria, defeated in Germany by Moreau, consented to sign peace : the Rhine, as far as Holland, was to be the boundary of France.

Bonaparte then occupied himself with the interior prosperity ; commerce and industry received a new impulse. He traversed the departments, caused bridges to be rebuilt, roads repaired, canals and harbours to be dug.

The 16th July, 1801, Bonaparte signed a "Concordat" with the Pope, Pius VII., which re-established the Catholic religion in France ; nine Archbishops and forty-one Bishops were created ; Sunday and the fêtes were also re-established.

In 1802, year X., Bonaparte created the Legion of Honor, his intention by this was to create a new nobility. This ob-

ject was disapproved of by Berlier, Counsellor of State, who said distinctions were the playthings of a monarchy. "I defy you," replied the First Consul, "to show me a republic ancient or modern, in which distinction did not exist; you call them toys; well, it is by toys that men are led. I would not say as much to a tribune; but in a council of wise men and statesmen, we may speak plainly. I do not believe that the French love 'liberty and equality.' The French have not been changed by ten years of revolution; they have but one sentiment—honour. That sentiment then must be nourished; they must have distinctions. See how the people prostrate themselves before the ribbons and stars of foreigners; they have been surprised by them, and they do not fail to wear them. All has been destroyed; the question is how to restore them all. There is a government, there are authorities; but the rest of the nation—what is it? Grains of sand. . . . Do you think the Republic is definitely established? If so you are greatly deceived. It is in our power to make it so; but we have not done it, and we shall not do it unless we hurl some masses of granite on the soil of France."—Thibaudeau's *Memories of the Consulate*.

Thus Bonaparte announced that his system of government would be very different to that the Revolutionists had sought to establish.

On the 6th May, 1802, Bonaparte had been named consul for ten years longer, and on the 2nd August he was made consul for life. The modification of the different bodies of the government, his system of usurpation abroad, served as a pretext for a third coalition. Georges Cadoudal, and Pichegru organised a conspiracy, Moreau was drawn into it by his wife, but the plot was discovered by the police, and

Cadoudal perished upon the scaffold. Pichegru strangled himself in prison, Moreau was banished.

Bonaparte accused the Duc d'Enghien of having directed the last plot. He was taken in his castle of Ettenheim (grand duchy of Baden), by a squadron of cavalry and brought to Vincennes, where he was hastily tried by a military commission, and executed in the trenches of the castle.

The 28th May, 1804, Bonaparte changed his title of First Consul to that of Emperor. Carnot was the only one who had the courage to oppose the Senators who proposed to confide the government to Bonaparte. The 2nd December, 1804, Pius VII. came to Paris to consecrate the new dynasty. The coronation took place at Notre-Dame. The pope gave him triple unction upon the hands and the head ; then an herald cried out : "The very glorious and very august Emperor of the French is crowned and enthroned. Long live the Emperor!" The church resounded with the same cry. Fêtes succeeded each other during several days.

## THE EMPIRE.

### NAPOLEON I.

1804—1814.

ON the 26th March, 1805, Napoleon went to Milan, in order to receive the Iron Crown of Lombardy. He named for Viceroy of this country Eugene de Beauharnais, son of Josephine.

At the moment of arming a fleet, said to be for a descent upon England, Bonaparte learnt that the Austrians, commanded by the Archduke Ferdinand and by General Mack, had passed the Jura, driven out the Elector of Bavaria from his states, and that the Russians were preparing to join them. He therefore left Boulogne, repaired to Paris, obtained an army of 80,000, and again departed. He passed the Rhine 1st October, and penetrated into Bavaria on the 6th, while Massina stopped the Archduke in Italy. Napoleon gained the victory of Wertengen (Bavaria), took Ulm, where General Mack was made prisoner ; he then entered Vienna, 13th November. Massena, in Italy, Augereau, in the Black Forest, are also victorious. The Emperor then marched against the Russians and the Austrians ; a battle was fought at Austerlitz, 2nd December, 1805 ; the French were again victorious ; the battle was called that of the Three Emperors. The peace of Presbourg followed, and forced Austria to recognise Napoleon King of Italy, and to give him the States of

Venice, of Dalmatia, and of Illyria. The Dukes of Wurtemburg and of Bavaria were created kings, so as to recompence their fidelity. Napoleon returned to Paris, and it is then that the Senate decreed a triumphant monument to him.

The 1st January, 1806, the Gregorian calendar was re-established, and the Pantheon was again used for public worship. Ferdinand, King of Naples, having violated the treaty concluded with France, Joseph Bonaparte was declared King of Naples.

Holland was then transformed into a kingdom and given to Louis Bonaparte, husband of Hortense, daughter of Josephine. The principality of Neufchâtel was given at the same time to Berthier; Guastalla to the Prince Borghése, husband of Pauline, sister of the Emperor; Murat was created Duke of Cleves and Berg, he had married Caroline Bonaparte.

The aggrandisement of France caused a fourth coalition. Prussia, anxious to chase the French from Germany, did not wait for Russia; but her forces were vanquished at Jena, 4th October, 1806; two days after Erfurth surrendered to Murat; on the 25th October Napoleon entered Berlin, and sent to the Invalides the sword of the great Frederick, his cordon of the Black Eagle, and the flags of his guards. The Emperor then attacked the Russians in Poland; his entry into Varsovia was a day of hope for the Poles. The Russians were conquered at Pultusk and at Eylau, 7th February, 1807. These last victories caused the Treaty of Tilsit. A bridge was constructed upon the Niemen, and received the Emperors Napoleon and Alexander, they appeared friendly, and shook hands at parting. Prussia lost

several of its states, and the czar gave up Moldavia and Wallachia.

Napoleon wishing to disable England caused all the ports of the Ocean and North Sea to be closed to her. He hoped by this continental blockade to ruin her commerce, and to repair the defeat of Trafalgar, where the French and Spanish fleets had been vanquished.

Portugal not having aided in the blockade, Napoleon, in concert with Spain, declared, by the Treaty of Fontainebleau, that the House of Braganza had ceased to reign. Junot entered the country, and the reigning prince, John VI., started at once for Brazil; Louis of Parma was then declared king of the provinces between the Minho and Douro.

Profiting by the dissensions between the King of Spain, Charles IV., and his son Ferdinand, the emperor sent troops into the peninsula; the people hearing that the royal family wished to retire to Mexico, rose and pillaged the palace of Godoy. Charles IV. then abdicated in favour of his son, Ferdinand VII., who was received in Madrid with shouts of joy. Charles, however, protested against his abdication, and Napoleon and the two foreign princes unite at Bayonne. Ferdinand gave the crown to his father, who, in his turn, gave it to Napoleon, the emperor bestowed it upon his brother Joseph. Ferdinand was confined in the castle of Valencay, and Charles IV. retired to Compiègne.

The Spaniards and Portuguese, however, soon rose against the French, who were massacred at Madrid, and Joseph is forced to fly; General Dupont capitulated at Baylen.

The court of Rome, dissatisfied with the conduct of the emperor, addressed some severe reproaches to him; French troops were immediately sent to occupy Rome; and Pius VII.

having threatened to excommunicate Napoleon, the provinces of Ancona and Urbin are taken from him and annexed to Italy.

On the 27th September, 1808, Napoleon and Alexander met at Erfurth, and there the Czar openly showed to Europe the admiration he felt for the French Emperor. It was arranged that he should conquer Sweden, while Napoleon attacked Spain. Accordingly the Emperor passed the Pyrenees with 80,000 of his veterans; he gained the battles of Burgos, of Espinosa, and entered Madrid on the 4th of October, 1808, when he decreed the abolition of the Inquisition, the reduction of the convents to a third of their number, and the abolition of feudal rights. But as soon as Napoleon left the Peninsula the Spaniards revolted, and each province became the scene of bloody wars.

Austria, aided by England, and counting upon Russia as an ally, armed 500,000 men, under the pretence of attacking Turkey. In the Spring of 1809, the English passed the Inn and chased the king, Jerome, from Westphalia. Napoleon immediately quitted Paris, and gained the victories of Landshut and Abensberg.

The Archduke Charles was completely defeated. The Marshals Davoust, Lannes, Massena, and Lefebre greatly distinguished themselves in this campaign. Vienna fell into the hands of the French after a bombardment of thirty-six hours. On the 21st May was fought the famous battle of Essling; the fight was deadly, but the French kept their position; Lannes was killed during the action. The army of Italy joined the great army, and Prince Eugene gained the battle of Raab. On the 6th July Napoleon was victorious at Wagram; the English then tried to obtain Antwerp, but

were forced to retire by Marshal Bernadotte. The Treaty of Vienna was now concluded ; it was agreed that the Princes of the Confederation should receive a part of Upper Austria ; that to Napoleon Trieste and the country situated to the right of the Saave as far as Croatia should be given. Austria also gave up West Galicia and Cracovia, and agreed to the continental blockade.

Pius VII., having at last published his bull of excommunication against Napoleon, was moved from Rome by the orders of Murat ; he remained at Fontainebleau until 1814.

The continental blockade was now observed all over Europe. France, augmented by the Roman states, the provinces of Illyria, and by Holland, now possessed 130 departments. Charles XIII., King of Sweden, adopted Bernadotte as his son, and named him his successor.

Napoleon at this time divorced Josephine, and married Maria Louisa of Austria, daughter of Francis I. In March, 1811, a son was born to him, and named King of Rome.

In May, 1812, Napoleon declared war to Alexander, his pretext being, violation of the Treaties. He left France, passed the Niemen, and entered Wilna ; at the approach of the emperor the Poles were filled with joy, for they hoped to recover their independence. Napoleon then began his disastrous campaign ; he forced the Russians to retreat before him, but they destroyed everything in their way. The dreadful battle of Moscova at last opened the road to Moscow to him ; he entered the city on the 14th September, 1812 ; silence reigned ; but the soldiers had hardly entered the town when fire broke out, it lasted for several days. The governor, Rostopsehin, is said to be the author of this act of despair. Napoleon hesitated, and the cold weather set in

while he was still in the heart of Russia ; then he began a disastrous retreat ; cold and hunger took from him even his old army. Prince Eugene and Marshal Ney, who well deserved the name of Bravest of the Brave, distinguished themselves by their courage and valour ; but all is in vain ; from the passage of the Beresina, the retreat of the French was a true defeat.

On the day Napoleon left Moscow three obscure generals, Mallet, Lahorie, and Guidal, tried to overthrow the empire by spreading the report of the emperor's death ; they were arrested and shot. Napoleon hastened to Paris, where the report of his disasters had preceded him ; he obtained a fresh levy of 300,000 men.

A sixth coalition was formed in March, 1813, by Prussia, England, and Russia. In May the emperor defeated their troops at Lutzen with his recruits. The enemy retreated to the Vistula, the French following, but at that moment Austria interfered as mediator. Terms of peace, however, could not be agreed upon, and then Austria joined the coalition. At Leipsic the emperor saw that the Saxons and Wurtemburgers passed over to the enemy, and in two days the French retired with considerable losses. Napoleon returned to Paris on the 9th November, and obtained another levy of 300,000 men. He started again for his last campaign, 25th January. The frontiers were invaded on all sides ; the Germans, headed by Blücher, were on the Rhine ; the northern army under Bernadotte, advanced into Belgium.

The army of Blücher was vanquished at Montmirail, and the Austrian army was cut to pieces at Montereau.

When the emperor was absent from any position, there the Austrians had the advantage, and made up for their pre-

vious losses. The English entered Bordeaux, which had declared itself for the Bourbons, and where the Duc d'Angoulême soon appeared. The Austrians occupied Lyons ; Murat betrayed his brother-in-law and conspired openly against him ; the allies advanced towards Paris, called thither by the royalists, at whose head was Talleyrand.

Maria Louisa, named regent by the emperor, left Paris on the 30th March, 1814, with the king of Rome, and the emperor's brother Joseph. On the 31st Paris capitulated, and the Senate declared Napoleon deposed, the right of inheritance abolished in his family, and the people and army absolved from their oath of fidelity to him. The emperor arrived on the 1st April to the help of the Parisians ; he concentrated his forces at Fontainebleau, where he abdicated in favour of his son ; his position and the 50,000 men under his command still rendered him formidable ; the Duc de Raguse left him and passed over to the enemy.

On the 11th April Napoleon renounced for himself and family the throne of France and Italy ; and received for retreat the little isle of Elba. He departed on the 20th, after having taken a touching farewell of his soldiers.

## THE RESTORATION.

### LOUIS XVIII.

1814—1824.

LOUIS STANISLAUS XAVIERE, son of Louis the dauphin, and grandson of Louis XV., and brother of Louis XVI., is then declared King of France. A chamber of peers and one of deputies were established; their members made laws conjointly with the prince; free voting for or against taxes was allowed, as also liberty of religious belief. The sale of the emigrants' property was declared irrevocable. Unpopular measures, however, soon cause defiance; Napoleon, watching everything from his island of Elba, prepared to return to France; he confided only in a trusty few, and it is allowed on all sides that no surprise was ever more sudden than that felt by the Bourbons when intelligence arrived that the emperor had once more raised his standard in Provence; he landed at the gulf of Juan on the 1st March, 1815, with about 900 of his old soldiers, the companions of his glory and of his exile. On the 30th he arrived at Paris; on his route he had everywhere met soldiers who had mounted the tricolor cockade. Louis XVIII., not deeming himself safe at Lille, whither he had retreated, further retired to Ghent. The Duke of Bourbon embarked at Paimbœuf, the Duchess d'Angoulême at Bordeaux, and her husband, forced to capitulate on the borders of the Rhine, embarked at Cette.

## THE HUNDRED DAYS.

20TH MARCH—8TH JULY, 1815.

NAPOLEON, received with enthusiasm and joy, took up his abode at the Tuileries; he then prepared to face his enemies, who were said to be on the point of sending a million of men against France. Murat, who wished to repair the wrong he had done to his brother-in-law, made an unhappy diversion in Italy; he was defeated, lost his throne, and retired to Toulon.

Napoleon advanced at the head of 120,000 men into Belgium, where he encountered the Anglo-Holland army, commanded by Wellington, and the Prussian army commanded by Blücher. On the 16th Napoleon attacked the Prussians at Ligny, and forced them to retire; and on the 18th was fought the battle of Waterloo, or Mount St. John. Attacks succeeded each other from 11 o'clock in the morning until seven in the evening. Napoleon watched all the movements from the heights of La Belle Alliance. He suddenly became pale, and exclaiming, "They are mingled together—all is lost for the present," rode off the field, and did not halt till he had reached Charleroi. The English lost in this last and most severe battle against Napoleon, 100 officers killed, 500 wounded, and 15,000 of rank and file killed and wounded. Of the 75,000 men conducted by the Emperor against the allies, not more than 30,000 were ever again collected in arms.

"On the 19th the capital had been greeted with the news of three great victories, at Charleroi, at Ligny, and Quatre-Bras—100 cannon fired in honour of the Emperor's successes—his partizans proclaimed that the glory of France was

secured—and dejection filled the hearts of the royalists. On the morning of the 21st it transpired that Napoleon had arrived alone the night before at the Elysée. The secret could no longer be kept. A great and decisive field had been fought, and the French army was no more."

On the 22nd June Napoleon renounced for the second time all right to the empire, in favour of his son. The Legislative chambers name a Committee, presided over by Fouché. The Emperor proposed to take the command of the army as general, and to serve as a simple citizen; but this was refused. He left Paris for Rochefort on the 29th of June; on the 6th July the allies enter Paris, and on the 8th Louis XVIII. returned.

Napoleon embarked on the 13th July, at Rochefort, but the English cruisers watched all his movements; he did not try to escape, but went on board the Bellerophon, commanded by Captain Maitland, after having written in the following terms to the Prince Regent of England:

“ Rochefort, July 13th, 1815.

“ Royal Highness,

“ A victim to the factions which divide my country, and to the hostility of the greatest Powers of Europe, I have terminated my political career, and come, like Themistocles, to seat myself on the hearth of the British people. I put myself under the protection of their laws, which I claim from your Royal Highness as the most powerful, the most constant, and the most generous of my enemies.

“ NAPOLEON.”

Napoleon was, however, consigned to the island of St. Helena; he in vain protested against this treatment, saying he believed the climate of the island and the confinement would kill him. He embarked upon the Northumberland (Admiral Cockburn), taking with him General Bertrand, his

wife, and three children; Generals Gourgaud, Montholon and wife, Las Casas and son, and twelve domestics. Napoleon died at St. Helena on the 15th May, 1821; he was buried in the valley called "Stanés," near to Longwood. His remains were transferred to France and interred at the Invalides 10th December, 1840.

### LOUIS XVIII.

1815—1824.

ON the 3rd July a capitulation was signed at St. Cloud by Davoust, Prince of Echmuhl, minister of war, and by Wellington and Blücher, by which it was decided that the French army should retire to the other side of the Loire; that public and individual property should be respected, and that persons then present in Paris should not be molested on account of their opinions or conduct. Fouché, who, minister of police under Napoleon, had desired and aided the return of the Bourbons, obtained his old post, as also an entry to the counsels of the king. Two lists of proscriptions were then drawn up, one for nineteen officers cited to appear before a council of war, and the other against thirty-five persons, who were to wait, under the surveillance of the police, until the chambers should decide their fate. Carnot was among this number, and Fouché, his colleague during the Hundred Days, signed these papers.

It was then that Decage, prefect of police, tore up the order of the day of the Prussian general, Muffling, who had ordered the sentinels to fire upon any one who braved them.

The army of the Loire was disbanded by the advice of Macdonald, and retired quietly home. Gouvion de St. Cyr, minister of war, then organised the Royal Guard.

The allies thought to divide the French territory between them ; a copy of this project fell into the hands of Louis XVIII. ; his pride revolted, and in an interview with Wellington and Alexander, " My lord," said he to the first, " in entering France I thought to reign over the kingdom of my fathers. It seems I made a mistake ; however, I cannot think of remaining here under any other condition. Will your government consent to receive me if I again ask its shelter ? " " No, no ! " cried Alexander, " Your majesty shall not lose your provinces, I will not suffer it." The Duke of Richelieu, friend of Alexander, and ancient governor of Odessa, then received orders to form the new cabinet. Richelieu hastened the conclusion of the treaty ; the demands of the allies were reduced to five points :—

- 1st.—The cession of the territory comprising Philippsbourg, Marienbourg, Sarrelouis, and Landau.
- 2nd.—The demolition of the fortress of Huningen.
- 3rd.—Payment of an indemnity of 7,000,000, without taking into consideration the sums amounting to 3,000,000, owing by the French government to particular individuals of different states.
- 4th.—Restitution of the department of Mont Blanc to the King of Sardinia.
- 5th.—Occupation of the frontiers, during a period of three or five years, at the will of the allies, by 150,000 men, maintained at the expence of France.

The reaction which followed the excitement of the last few years took different forms. At Marseilles some Mamelukes were massacred ; at Avignon Marshal Brune, and at Toulouse General Ramel, are killed by the populace. In the department of the Gard the reaction took a religious appear-

ance ; at Nîmes and at Uzès the assassins run through the streets crying : “ Death to the Protestants ! ” The Calvinists were massacred in the prisons, and their houses and temples burnt down. The local authorities remain inactive, and watch these atrocities with indifference ; when the deputy, D’Argensen, demanded an inquiry into these acts he was called to order. In England Brougham raised his voice in favour of the Protestants ; and in several places the victims are snatched from death by force of the Austrian bayonet.

The Chamber of deputies condemned to perpetual exile all regicides. Fouché now ambassador at Dresden is tainted by this law, and dies in exile. Le Bedoyère, Ney (the bravest of the brave), the two brothers Faucher, Mouton Duvernet, and Chartaud, are the first victims. Le Febre Desnouettes, Lallemand, Rigaud, and Savary are condemned to death.

The Chamber Introuvable proposed : 1st, The re-establishment of royalty upon its old basis. 2ndly. The creation of a territorial aristocracy. 3rdly. The political and financial constitution of the clergy of France.

Louis XVIII., by the advice of Richelieu, dissolved this chamber ; its measures had been too violent ; the command of the National Guard was also taken from the Count of Artois. The freedom of the press was abolished, and the conscription of the empire re-established.

The Inquisition was re-opened in Spain by Ferdinand VII.; he sent such eminent men as Martinez de la Rosa, Torreno, and Arguelles into exile. The provinces rose against him, Madrid received this news with joy, and Ferdinand, having no alternative but to abdicate or to give a constitution, swears to maintain the Charter.

At about eleven o'clock in the evening of the 13th February, 1820, the Duke of Berry was assassinated upon coming out of the opera, by a workman named Louvel, who forcing a passage for himself, struck him in the breast with a poignard, which he left in the wound. The Duke expired in the Chamber of Administration, in the arms of his wife, Caroline of Sicily, daughter of Francis I. Louis XVIII. was present at his death. Louvel, who had been arrested, answered with calmness the questions put to him, said that he had no accomplices, and that since 1814 he had meditated the project of delivering France of the Bourbons, and that if he had escaped this time, he had intended to assassinate successively all the princes of this family. He was executed, Place de la Grève, 7th June.

The birth of the Duke of Bordeaux, 20th September, 1820, was a source of joy to all the royal family.

Minor troubles occurred, but none of any importance until a military insurrection broke out at Befort and at Colmar. The ex-colonel Caron and his friend Roger are the victims of the provocation of police agents. Bands of troops, among whom were officers in disguise, over-run the country around Colmar, persuaded Caron and Roger to form them, and when these, deceived by perfidious demonstrations, cry, "Vive le Empereur!" the soldiers fall upon them and deliver them up to the authorities. Caron was shot, and six agents who had provoked this crime were publicly rewarded.

In the meantime the revolution in Spain continued, owing to the perfidy and weakness of Ferdinand VII. The Monks organised the troops of "Guérillas" (viz: little war, a name given to soldiers who were charged to fight the French from 1808—1814). These troops marched, crucifix in hand,

and took the stronghold of Sen d'Urzel ; a regency was then established, and sent out proclamations in the name of the king. Foreign Powers interfered, and an army was sent from France : before its arrival the Cortès had brought the king to Seville, and then to Cadiz, after having declared him deposed on account of mental alienation. The Duke d'Augouleme tried to open negotiations with the Constitutional moderates, and formed a regency at Madrid. The French, however, were soon looked upon with distrust, because they opposed the excesses of the Spaniards. Augouleme published an order, forbidding any person to be arrested without the authority of the French officers, and placed the editors of periodicals under the direction of the commanders of the troops. Cadiz soon submitted, and Ferdinand was immediately delivered ; he directly chose his ministers from the most violent party ; but he succeeded in subduing, at least for a time, his people.

On Sunday, 10th September, 1824, Louis XVIII. ceased to receive, and ordered his minister to act with his brother, to whom he said in his last interview with him : "I have kept between the different parties like Henry IV., and I have this more, that I die in my bed at the Tuileries ; act as I have done, and you will arrive at this end of peace and tranquility. I pardon the sorrows that you have caused me in the hope that I have of your conduct as king." The old king then called the blessing of heaven upon his family ; he put his hand upon the head of the Duke of Bordeaux, and said in a broken voice, looking at Charles X. : " Let Charles X. take care of the crown of this child."

During the last years of his life Louis XVIII. could not walk, his legs were attacked by an incurable disease, and he suffered

from the gout. He felt for some time before his death that his intellectual faculties were failing. He did not partake of the religious fervour of some of his family but he accomplished with regularity all the exterior acts of religion. He was always very punctual when he had assigned an hour for an audience or a ceremony, saying, "Exactness is the politeness of kings." He assisted at the court receptions until nearly the end, saying to those who were anxious to spare him this fatigue, "A king of France should die standing."

## CHARLES X.

16TH SEPTEMBER, 1824—9TH AUGUST, 1830.

"No more halberds!" said Charles to the Guards who prevented the people approaching him at his coronation. He gave liberty to the press, but maintained the anti-liberal ministry. In 1825 he was crowned at Rheims, in the ancient robes, and received the crown from the Archbishop's hands.

The Liberal party increased; at its head were Benjamin Constant, Roger Collard, and Casimir Perier; it deplored the loss of General Foy, whose remains were accompanied to Père Lachaise by 100,000 citizens, the élite of the nation, and his children were adopted in the name of the country. The court saw in all this a seditious movement; Monsieur de Montlosier then denounced the party called "Congregation," as threatening the safety of the State; and at the tribune the avowal of the existence of Jesuits in the kingdom, escaped from the Bishop Frayssinous. M. de Montlosier addressed himself to the Chamber of Peers, who received his petition. The cabinet resolved to again take liberty from the press, and a law was presented to this effect in 1827. As soon as this was known, a rising took place, and a deputation ar-

rived to entreat the king to withdraw the law; he, however, refused to receive them. The law was presented to the Chamber of Peers, but the members would not pass it, and it was withdrawn. The people, in their joy, illuminated Paris, and cries were heard in every direction of "Vive le roi!" Charles reviewed the troops on the following Sunday, and appeared satisfied with his reception; but, unknown to him, some voices insulted the princesses and the ministers present. When the king was informed of this he disbanded the National Guard; as the public journals assumed a threatening tone, the "Censure" was re-established. Monsieur de Villèle, in order to ensure his power, consulted the prefects upon the spirit manifested in their several departments, and received only favourable accounts; he dissolved the Chamber of Deputies, and announced that the New Chamber would sit during seven years, while, by the Charter, five only were allowed. He also created seventy-six peerages in favour of the majority of the Ancient deputies. Freedom was again allowed to the press; its influence and the vigilance of the electors triumph over the manœuvres of the administration, and at Paris the elections were liberal; the popular enthusiasm broke out in noisy manifestations, and the means taken to repress it gave it the character of a rising, and blood was shed in the Rue St. Denis. The minister, Villèle, had concluded a treaty with Russia and England in 1827, in order to terminate hostilities with Turkey and Greece. Ibrahim Pacha, son of Mahomet Ali, then arrived in the Morea with a great fleet, and had it not been for the intervention of the powers, the Greeks were lost. Ibrahim refused to observe the armistice proscribed, and this refusal caused the battle of Navarino, 20th October, 1828, in which

the Egyptian fleet was destroyed by the English and Russians.

The minister, Martignac, abolished the Censure, gave laws for the budget and the elections, and sent 15,000 men to the Morea, under the command of General Maison. Ibrahim retired to Capo d'Istria, where he founded a regular government. Martignac had afterwards a more difficult triumph : the banishment of the Jesuits. This concession was the most painful of all those made by Charles X.

On the 8th August, 1829, after the vote for the budget of 1830, and the termination of the session, Charles named his new ministers, of whom the most remarkable men were Polignac, representing the seat of the "congregationalists"; La Bourdonnaye, representing all that the chamber of 1815 had had unpopular; and Bourmont, known to the people as a deserter from Waterloo. Monsieur de Blancas, known for his anti-constitutional doctrines, was named governor of the Duke of Bordeaux. On learning the names of the new ministers the press passed from disdain to anger; the society, "Help thyself, and heaven will help thee," prepared, in case of the dissolution of the chamber, resistance by the elections.

On the 2nd March, 1830, Charles appeared before the deputies and the peers, and declared that he would maintain intact the institutions and prerogatives of the crown. The answer of the deputies showed the king that his choice of ministers was menacing to public liberties; this address was voted for by 221 members against 191; the king, offended, prorogued the chamber, and finally dissolved it in May, 1830. The electoral colleges were then convoked, and the 221 members who signed the address were re-elected.

To obtain popularity by a military success, the ministers took advantage of an insult offered by the Bey of Algiers

to the French consul, to purge the sea of the barbarian pirates. The command of the army was given to Bourmont; that of the navy to Duperré. Algiers was taken, but the court and ministers alone rejoiced, for the people saw that this victory would take more from their liberty than it would add to their glory. The ministry was about to find itself face to face with a majority of impatient and hostile voters, who, sincerely constitutional, did not desire the overthrow of the throne. As in 1791 the court could not distinguish between constitutionalists and revolutionists; it would not see its true position, and repeated with complaisance these words that some unknown habitués of the market-place had said to Charles X: "Maitre Charbonnier est maitre chez lui." Charles thought he had a great mission to fulfil, namely, to suffocate liberalism, and persuaded himself that the article XIV. of the Charter, which authorised the king to give ordinances for the safety of the state, also authorised him to step out of the legal path, if the state is in danger, could not be saved by legal means. Indeed, he often said, "Louis XVI. was conducted to the scaffold from having given way too often."

In the last days of July the members of the two chambers received letters ordering a convocation for the 3rd of August; perhaps this was done because the king still hesitated; perhaps because he wished to change public opinion. On the 26th July the "Moniteur" published "un Exposé des motifs," edited by Monsieur de Chantelleuze, and followed by the famous "ordinnances," signed the day before, which suppressed the liberty of the press, annulled the last elections, and created a new electoral system. All the ministers then at Paris, Polignac, Chantelleuze, Peyronnet, etc., wished to

share the responsibility. The Prince de Polignac had great confidence in a success which he took no measures to ensure. A dull murmur replied to the publication of the ordonnances, and soon 1000 barricades were erected. The Duc de Raguse directed the troops against the rebel population, but Lafayette was in the midst holding up the tricolor flag. The National Guard dissolved by Charles X., rallied; every street and place became a battle field. After three days' fighting the people were victorious, and then they dispersed. During these days of agitation Charles prayed at the altars for the safety he no longer felt sure of. He ordered a new ministry to be composed, but it was too late. The municipal committee of Paris rejected the overtures of the court. The Parisians were about to attack St. Cloud, when Charles departed in the night for Versailles. He shed tears on beholding the child whose future he had ruined. Among the victors some desired a Republic and others to maintain the representative government. Louis Philippe d'Orleans, the friend of Foy, and of the most eminent literary men, was also thought of; he left the quietness of Neuilly and entered Paris amidst the acclamations of the people; he was proclaimed Lieutenant-General of the kingdom. The deputies convoked by Charles X., assembled on the 3rd August; they revised the Charter; the Roman Catholic religion ceased to be considered as that of the state; the article XIV. disappeared; liberty of the press was irrevocably established, the chambers as well as the king were to have the right of presenting laws; France took the three colours; the age of the deputies was fixed at thirty years; and later, hereditary peerage was abolished. It was declared that the jury should be employed in all political offences, and in those of the press; that

deputies, promoted to salaried functions, could be re-elected ; that the National Guard should be organised and allowed to choose their own officers, and that double votes should be abolished.

The royal family, threatened at Versailles by 20,000 Parisians, retreat slowly into exile for the third time. On the 16th April, Charles X. and his family left Cherbourg for England. Before his departure he had sent his abdication and that of his son, in favour of the Duke of Bordeaux, to the chambers ; but Louis Philippe was called to the throne, and his descendants from male to male were made heirs to it for ever. On the 9th August, 1830, Louis Philippe, accompanied by the Duc de Chartres, and the Duc de Nemours, went to the Palace-Bourbon, where the deputies were assembled ; he sat down on a seat below the throne ; after the declaration of the two chambers in his favour, he uncovered, raised his hand, and swore in the presence of God, to observe faithfully the Constitutional Charter ; after having signed the formula of the oath he mounted the throne, and was proclaimed king of the French, by the name of Louis Philippe I.

Charles X. retired first to Holyrood, in Scotland, then to the castle of Hradschin, near Prague, and at last to Goritz, where he died in 1836, in his 80th year.

## LOUIS PHILIPPE.

1830—1848.

THE principal events of the reign of Louis Philippe were : in 1831 the siege of Antwerp ; the occupation of Ancona, which was not given back to the pope until 1837 ; troubles broke out, and the cholera devastated France in 1832. From

1830 to 1847 war continued in Algeria; at the end of that time Abdel Kadir submitted and peace was made. The French troops had been commanded by Generals Bourmont, Clauzel, Sarary, Berthezène, Voïrel, from 1830 to 1834. The governors were: Generals D'Erlon, Clauzel, Damrémont, Valée, and Bugeaud, from 1834—1847. The Duc d'Aumale, and Generals Cavaignac, Changarnier, and Charon, also commanded during the last period of the war.

For some time after the accession of Louis Philippe, France enjoyed repose, but the king then endeavoured to suppress the liberty of the press, and general dissatisfaction prevailed in consequence. Reform banquets were held in different parts of the country; a banquet on an immense scale was arranged to take place at Paris on the 29th February, 1848; the king forbade it, and a revolution ensued, which lasted for three days, during which the streets were barricaded and blood was shed. Louis Philippe abdicated in favour of the Count de Paris, and then fled with his family to England, where he died in 1850.

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## SECOND FRENCH REPUBLIC.

FROM 24TH FEBRUARY, 1848, TO 2ND DECEMBER, 1852.

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A provisional government was then formed and the Republic proclaimed. In December, 1848, Louis Napoleon, nephew of the great Napoleon, and son of Louis Bonaparte, ex-king of Holland, was chosen as first president of the Republic. He was further proclaimed emperor of the French, 2nd December, 1852.

## SECOND FRENCH EMPIRE.

### LOUIS NAPOLEON III.

2ND DECEMBER, 1852.

ON the 30th January, 1853, Louis Napoleon married Eugénie de Montéjo, Countess of Teba.

In 1854 war was carried on against Russia by the united forces of France and England, in defence of the Turks. The allies gained the battles of the Alma and of Inkermann, and in September, 1855, took Sebastopol and the Malakoff Tower. The generals in command were Marshal St. Arnaud, who died in the French camp, Generals Canrobert and Pellissier. On the 30th March, 1856, peace was signed at Paris between France, England, and Russia. These countries have since remained firm friends.

On the 16th March, 1856, a son was born to the emperor; he was christened Napoleon Eugène Louis Jean Joseph.

An attempt, which fortunately failed, was made to destroy Napoleon in 1858, by means of grenades thrown into his carriage; the chief conspirator was an Italian named Orsini.

In 1858 war broke out between Austria and Sardinia. Prince Napoleon, a cousin to the emperor, had married the Princess Clotilde, daughter to the King of Sardinia, and a defensive alliance had been signed between the two countries. French troops were, therefore, sent into Italy, and

repulsed the Austrians at Magenta. Milan surrendered a few days later ; the battle of Solferino, on the 24th June, was gained by the allies ; they, however, did not follow up the advantage, for a treaty of peace was suddenly signed on the 11th June at Villafranca, by which Venice remained to Austria ; Lombardy was given to Sardinia, to which also were annexed the duchies of Tuscany, Parma, and Modena. In the following year Nice and Savoy were ceded to France.

In July, 1870, began the disastrous war between France and Prussia, the results of which are yet to be known. Signs of coming hostilities had been seen in the increased armaments of each country, in the re-organisation of the military system of France, and in the jealousy displayed by her in reference to the Treaty of Prague. The immediate pretext of the war, however, was the candidature of the Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, for the throne of Spain, rendered vacant during the past two years by the abdication of Isabella the Catholic. France remonstrated that the election of a Prussian Prince to the Spanish throne would destroy the equilibrium of the Powers of Europe. Prince Leopold accordingly withdrew his pretensions, but France would not be satisfied without some guarantee from Prussia, which she declined to give ; the mediation of England was of no avail, and war was declared on the 15th July. The summons to arms was received by the French with exultation, shouts of "A Berlin ! Vive la guerre !" were heard on all sides. The German army received the news with a stern determination to do their duty, and Bavaria, Saxony, Wurtemburg, and Baden eagerly responded to the call of Prussia. France and the emperor, who had counted upon the discontent of Hanover, and the dissensions of Northern

and Southern Germany, must now have seen they had made a false move, but it was too late to retract. Thousands of French troops were marched to the German frontier, and formed a line extending from Thionville to Belfort. A regiment under Marshal MacMahon was concentrated round and in Strasbourg. Troops under De Failly and Frossard were stationed at Bitsche and St. Avold. Another corps under Ladmirault held a line nearly parallel at Thionville, Bazaine was encamped at Metz, Canrobert at Nancy, and Marshal Douay at Belfort; the French armies thus threatened the German frontier from the Moselle valley to the Black Forest, and French hope lay entirely in the offensive. Germany was at this moment unprepared, and a good commander would have seized this opportunity, but day succeeded day, and, except the affair of Saarbrück, the French army remained inactive. The emperor had been detained at Paris and did not reach the head-quarters at Metz till the 28th July; he was accompanied thither by the Prince Imperial. There was, as yet, nothing to prevent the French making a bold attack, and taking possession of the Rhenish provinces, but the emperor, who it is supposed had now discovered that his army was weak and his commissariat very defective, still delayed action. In the meantime the German army was placed on a war footing; the First army, under General Steinmetz, had been moved towards the Saar; the second, nominally under Prince Frederick Charles, but really commanded by the King of Prussia, had crossed the Rhine, and now occupied the region between Hochwald and the Northern Vosges; the third, under the Crown Prince of Prussia, had crossed the Rhine, and touching the outposts of the second army, reached the stream of the Lauter, where

there was a weak point on the Alsatian frontier. An army of 200,000 Germans occupied the frontier behind the Saar and Lauter, and at least 200,000 more were advancing, and keeping up communication with the leading divisions; in fact the Germans numbered nearly two to one of the French, whose army, at the most, counted 300,000 men; the German commanders also were better, and lookers-on could already see that the French forces were threatened with serious disaster.

On the 2nd August a skirmish took place on the heights overlooking Saarbrück, in which the French dislodged the Prussians, but as they proceeded no further, instead of seizing Neunkirchen and thus severing the railway communication, it is supposed this was merely a skirmish to show the Prince Imperial "a mimicry of war," although in the French account sent to Paris it was magnified into a battle, and the bravery of the troops extolled. A serious encounter, however, took place on the 4th August, at Wissembourg, and resulted in the defeat of the French. MacMahon, who it is said misunderstood his orders, stood in readiness for battle near Woerth, and occupied a strong position; he had about 47,000 men, and could get support from de Failly, should he need it. The Prussians had immense forces, weakened, however, at this moment by the withdrawal of some Bavarian corps who had made an attack on the French left. MacMahon took advantage of this, and attacked the enemy. A fierce encounter raged during two hours, each side displaying obstinate valour; the arrival of the 11th Prussian Corps, however, caused the French to retreat on Fröschweiller. The Germans attacked with overwhelming force, and before six in the evening the magnificent army, which had begun the attack in the morning, was a ruined mass of fugitives. At

least 20,000 men were killed, wounded, or taken prisoners ; 30 guns and 6 mitrailleuses were captured ; the plan of the campaign and much treasure fell into the hands of the enemy, and it is remarkable that a collection of ladies' gaudy dresses, etc., was found and taken. The result of this contest might have been very different, had MacMahon been aided by De Failly, but he arrived too late to take part in the fight. At the same time a battle was being fought and lost by the French centre. They had evacuated Saarbrück on the 5th August, and lay in the valley extending to Forbach ; on the 6th the Germans took possession of it, and the French seeing the enemy was weak in front, advanced again to the heights near Saarbrück, where, with the woods on their right, they awaited calmly the attack of the enemy. The fight commenced, and the Germans kept the French at bay until they were strengthened by a division of the corps of Steinmetz. The contest was long and fierce, but the French at last gave way, leaving guns, baggage, etc., on the field. The two defeats of Woerth and Forbach placed the French army in a critical position, and showed how faulty was the strategy of the Commander in Chief.

Three days later, MacMahon, with his broken army, had escaped towards Strasbourg, and De Failly was proceeding to join him, but both were cut off from all communication with the main body. The left and centre of the French army were gathering in and around Metz ; this force, the principal hope of France, numbered 150,000 men, and 400 or 500 guns, a force quite unequal to that of the Prussians, who had 200,000 men on their way from the Saar, while the Crown Prince with his corps was rapidly advancing through the passes of the Vosges. The Emperor, who had drawn his

chief corps to Metz, still lost three days in holding councils, reviewing troops, and planning the campaign ; he also at this time resigned the chief command to Marshal Bazaine. The German masses were meanwhile advancing on Metz, and had so arranged that a retreat on Châlons would be impossible to the French. On the 14th August, the Emperor, however, crossed the Moselle, and reached Châlons ; but the principal part of the army remained encamped to the east of the fortress ; they were here attacked, and after a hotly contested fight of three or four hours, retreated into the town. The Germans had suffered greatly, but they had accomplished their design of detaining the French army in its former position, and were themselves being strengthened hourly by the arrival of fresh forces. On the 15th, however, Bazaine might still have escaped to Verdun, but it seems he did not know of the danger threatening him, for he did not attempt to advance till the next day, and it was then too late. His army had commenced its march when it was suddenly assailed by a Prussian corps ; the French fought under great disadvantages, for they were attacked always on their flank, and soon were obliged to retreat into Metz. At the same time another division was attacked on the Etain road, and obliged to fall back on Doncourt, and from thence to Gravelotte and Metz. Bazaine endeavoured again to extricate himself ; he posted 110,000 men on the heights of Gravelotte, at the junction of the Verdun and Etain roads, where they had every advantage of position, with a wood beneath them commanding the neighbouring approaches ; he left a reserve force of 20,000 men at Metz. The Germans, in the interval, advanced and occupied the roads to Verdun and Etain, from Rezonville to Doncourt, and had a

force of 240,000 men to oppose to the French, whom they had decided to attack right and left simultaneously. The attack began about mid-day, and lasted until night ; for hours the victory hung in suspense, but the French at length fell back on Metz, fighting to the last ; they lost 19,000 men. On the German side, it is supposed 25,000 men at least were killed. Bazaine with his army was now completely imprisoned in Metz, with no prospect, if he could not force his way through the lines of the enemy, but to surrender.

MacMahon in the meantime had reached Châlons, which covered the approaches to Paris ; he had 30,000 men, and in a few days received a reinforcement, which, however, was composed of raw recruits, and required several weeks' discipline before they could at all be efficient troops. The Crown Prince of Prussia reached St. Dizier and Vitry on the 20th August, and on the 21st, from some reasons unknown, MacMahon fell back upon Courcelles, and here it was that a resolution most calamitous to the French, and which, indeed, caused the ruin of their army, was formed. A council of war was held, and it was determined that as a retreat on Paris would prove fatal to the Imperial interests, MacMahon should assume the defensive, and endeavour to join Bazaine at Metz. In order to avoid an engagement with the enemy, it was decided to march by Montmédy and Thionville to Metz, for it was thought that once Thionville passed Bazaine would be able to co-operate with the relieving army. The Prussian commanders received with astonishment and disbelief the news that the French had turned towards Rheims ; orders were, however, immediately given to move northwards, and by the 26th August the Crown Prince of Saxony was marching for Stenay, and his colleague

endeavouring to reach the flank of MacMahon's army. On the 27th August the French marshal, who ought to have reached the Meuse, was only at Le Chêne le Populeux: the delay must be explained by the bad condition of the troops, who only marched 22 miles in two days, and the misconduct of some of the regimental officers; this delay proved fatal, for the German armies, numbering about 24,000 men, were marching on with astonishing rapidity, and the Crown Prince of Saxony reached the Meuse in time to fall upon the vanguard of the French when they should cross it; the Crown Prince of Prussia arrived on the line of march of the French by the 28th. MacMahon, now warned of his danger, determined to cross the Meuse and to go on to Carignan by Montmédy, but the Prussians advanced and drove back the French as they arrived on the river, with terrible loss, and shut off the road to Montmédy. MacMahon, with his disheartened troops, then collected behind the Chiers. Here, with his 110,000 men, with Balan and Bazeilles in front, and Sedan to the right of the Meuse, he waited the attack, the emperor, it is said, still sanguine as to the result. On the morning of the 31st August the battle began, every step was disputed, every position the scene of a bloody contest; the emperor himself fought bravely and cheered on his men, but all was in vain, the French line after a struggle of several hours gave way, and was "driven headlong into the town, smitten by the weight of a crushing artillery." Firing was still kept up on the town, until a flag of truce was waved from its undefended walls, in token that a parley was desired. A council of war was held in Sedan; with almost one voice it was agreed that the position was hopeless, and that the terms of the King of Prussia must be submitted to. An army of

95,000 men, eagles, flags, horses, and arms in immense numbers were the trophies of this disastrous day! Napoleon also surrendered himself prisoner, and has been assigned a residence at Wilhelmshöhe by the King of Prussia. Mac-Mahon was badly wounded. Upon the receipt of this terrible defeat great agitation prevailed in Paris: the deposition of the emperor and the proclaiming of a Republic was demanded. A little later the Republic was proclaimed, and the new ministry thus constituted :

General Trochu...President of the Government, with full military powers for the national defence.

M. Jules Favre...Minister of Foreign Affairs.

M. Gambetta.....Minister of the Interior.

General Leflo ...Minister of War.

M. Fourichon ...Minister of Marine.

M. Crémieux ...Minister of Justice.

M. Picard .....Minister of Finance.

M. Jules Simon..Minister of Public Instruction and Religion.

M. Magnin .....Minister of Agriculture.

M. Dorian .....Minister of Public Works.

The Republic was proclaimed at Lyons and at other large towns, and perfect order reigned.

The Empress and the Prince Imperial retired to England.

It is believed that before the memorable battle of Sedan, communication, by means of a subterranean telegraph to Mezières, had been kept up between Marshals MacMahon and Bazaine, for on the 31st August the latter tried to break through the German lines and to advance to Thionville; the attempt was unsuccessful, both on that and on the following day, but the Germans sustained heavy losses. A few days later Bazaine received news of the capitulation of Sedan,

but he refused to listen to the idea of surrender, and although his prospects must even then have seemed hopeless, he prepared to defend the fortress. He held out for more than seven weeks, keeping the army of the enemy which surrounded Metz in check; but he could not break through their lines, and was obliged to succumb to famine. On the 27th October the whole French army, consisting of 3 marshals of France, 6,000 officers, 173,000 men, and immense quantities of munitions of war, besides one of the strongest fortresses in Europe, were the trophies of a capitulation which, although different to that of Sedan, was even a greater national disaster. The terms of the capitulation of Metz, agreed upon by the commanders of the respective armies, were as follows:—

“Art. 1. The French army placed under the orders of Marshal Bazaine are prisoners of war.

“Art. 2. The fortress and the town of Metz, with all the forts, the material of war, the provisements of all kinds, and everything that is the property of the State, will be surrendered to the Prussian army in the state in which it is at the time of the signature of this convention. On Saturday, October 29th, at midday, the forts of St. Quentin, Plappeville, St. Julien, Queuleu, and St. Privat, as well as the gate Mazelle, on the road to Strasbourg, be made over to the Prussian troops. At ten o'clock on the morning of the same day, the artillery and engineer officers, with some non-commissioned officers, will be admitted into the said forts, to occupy the powder magazines and to discover the mines.

“Art. 3. The arms, as well as all the material of the army, consisting of flags, eagles, cannon, mitrailleuses, horses, war chests, equipages of the army, munitions, etc., will be left at

Metz, and in the forts, at military offices established by the Marshal Bazaine, to be remitted immediately to Prussian Commissioners. The troops without arms will be conducted, arranged according to their regiments and corps, in military order, to the place appointed for each corps. The officers will then re-enter freely into the interior of the entrenched camp, or at Metz, on condition of giving their word of honour not to quit the place without the orders of the Prussian commandant. The troops will keep their knapsacks, tents, coverings, etc.

“Art. 4. All the generals and officers, as well as the military employés having the rank of officers, who give their parole in writing not to bear arms against Germany, or to act in any way contrary to her interests until the end of the present war, will not be made prisoners of war. They will preserve their arms and personal effects. In recognition of the courage of which the army and the garrison gave proof during the campaign, it is also permitted to those officers who choose captivity, to take with them their swords and personal effects.

“Art. 5. The military surgeons will, without exception, remain behind in charge of the wounded. They will be treated according to the Convention of Geneva, as will be the “personnel” of the hospitals.

“Art. 6. Questions of detail concerning the interests of the town are treated in the appendix to this protocol.

“Art. 7. Any article which is doubtful shall be interpreted in favour of the French army.”

**CHRONOLOGICAL AND DYNASTIC TABLE  
OF THE  
KINGS OF FRANCE  
FROM 420—1852.**

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**THE MEROVINGIANS.**

	A. D.		A. D.
PHARAMOND ...	420—428	CLOTAIRE III. ...	656—670
CLODION ...	428—448	CHILDERIC II. ...	670—678
MEROVÉE ...	448—458	THIERRY III. ...	678—691
CHILDÉRIC I. ...	458—481	CLOVIS III. ...	691—695
CLOVIS I. ...	481—511	CHILDÉRIC III. ...	695—711
CHILDÉBERT I. ...	511—558	DAGOBERT III. ...	711—715
CLOTAIRE I. ...	558—561	CLOTAIRE IV. ...	715—717
CARIBERT I. ...	561—567	CHILPÉRIE II. ...	717—720
CHILPÉRIE I. ...	567—584	THIERRY IV. ...	720—737
CLOTAIRE II. ...	584—628	INTERREGNUM ...	737—742
DAGOBERT I. ...	628—638	CHILDÉRIC III. ...	742—752
CLOVIS II. ...	638—656		

**THE CARLOVINGIANS.**

PEPIN ...	752—768	EUDES (Capetian)	888—898
CHARLEMAGNE ...	768—814	CHARLES III. (the Simple)	898—923
LOUIS I. ...	814—840	RAOUL (Capetian)	923—936
CHARLES II. ...	840—877	LOTHAIRE ...	936—954
LOUIS II. ...	877—879	LOUIS IV. ...	954—986
LOUIS III. or CARLOMAN ...	879—884	LOUIS V. ...	986—987
CHARLES III. (the Fat)	884—888		

**THE CAPETIANS.**

HUGH CAPET ...	987—996	LOUIS VIII. ...	1223—1226
ROBERT THE PIous	996—1081	LOUIS IX. ...	1226—1270
HENRY I. ...	1031—1060	PHILIP III. ...	1270—1285
PHILIP I. ...	1060—1108	PHILIP IV. ...	1285—1314
LOUIS VI. ...	1108—1137	LOUIS X. ...	1314—1316
LOUIS VII. ...	1137—1180	PHILIP V. ...	1316—1322
PHILIP II. ...	1180—1223	CHARLES IV. ...	1322—1328

*Continuation of the Chronological and Dynastic Table.*

## VALOIS-DIRECTS.

	A. D.		A. D.
PHILIP VI. ...	1328—1350	CHARLES VII. *	1422—1461
JOHN ...	1350—1364	LOUIS XI. ...	1461—1483
CHARLES V. ...	1364—1380	CHARLES VIII. *	1483—1498
CHARLES VI. ...	1380—1422		

## VALOIS-ORLÉANS.

LOUIS XII. ...	... ... ... ... ...	1498—1515
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## VALOIS-ANGOULÈME.

FRANCIS I. ...	1515—1547	CHARLES IX. ...	1560—1574
HENRY II. ...	1547—1559	HENRY III. ...	1574—1589
FRANCIS II. ...	1559—1560		

## THE BOURBONS.

HENRY IV. ...	1589—1610	NAPOLEON I.	
LOUIS XIII. ...	1610—1643	CONSUL	1799—1804
LOUIS XIV. ...	1643—1715	NAPOLEON I.	
LOUIS XV. ...	1715—1774	EMPEROR	1804—1814
LOUIS XVI. ...	1774—1792	LOUIS XVIII.	1814—1824
LOUIS XVII. never reigned, died in prison	1795	CHARLES X. ...	1824—1830
REPUBLIC ...	1792—1804	LOUIS PHILIPPE	1830—1848
CONVENTION ...	1792—1795	REPUBLIC ...	1848—1852
DIRECTORY ...	1795—1799	NAPOLEON III.	1852—
		REPUBLIC PROCLAIMED	1870

THE END.

